

# Wabash Plain Dealer

TUESDAY  
DECEMBER 31, 2019

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Shining light on Wabash County since 1859.



Pulse  
of Wabash

## Wabash Plain Dealer's new website now available

Check out our new website at [www.wabashplaindealer.com](http://www.wabashplaindealer.com) and let us know what you think. Stories older than a few weeks are not yet available but will be soon. If you had an account on our previous site, you will need to create a new account. If you registered with the same email address we will be able to locate your previous subscription as well. Once registered, you can also verify your subscription. Please contact [web.support@wabashplaindealer.com](mailto:web.support@wabashplaindealer.com) with any questions. Thank you!

## Wabash Plain Dealer's new office now open

The Wabash Plain Dealer's new office is now open on the second floor at 99 W. Canal St.

## City offices closed Wednesday

Wabash City Hall along with all non-emergency city of Wabash departments will be closed Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2020. They will be open at 8 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 2, 2020.

## Laketon American Legion Post offering breakfast and lunch

The Laketon American Legion Post will be offering breakfast and lunch from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. through Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2020. The Blue Bird Cafe will be closed.

## BMV announces holiday hours

Branches will be closed Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2020 in observance of the New Year's holiday. All branches will resume regularly scheduled business hours beginning Thursday, Jan. 2, 2020. For a complete list of branch locations and hours, to complete an online transaction, or to find a 24-hour BMV Connect kiosk near you visit [IN.gov/BMV](http://IN.gov/BMV).

## First Day Hike planned at Salamonie Lake

Join Upper Wabash Interpretive Services' staff for a First Day Hike at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2020 at Salamonie Lake at 3691

See PULSE / Page A2

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Obituaries, A3 Weather, A2



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# Swearing-in ceremony set for Tuesday

## Elected officials to begin duties for 2020

BY ROB BURGESS  
[rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com](mailto:rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com)

As the city of Wabash and the surrounding communities prepare to begin a new year, a swearing-in ceremony for elected officials has been scheduled for 4 p.m. Tuesday in the City Hall chambers, stated Bev Vanderpool, assistant to Mayor Scott Long, in a Friday statement to the Plain Dealer.

### Ceremony schedule

The ceremony is set to begin with a welcome from Chris-

tine Flohr, of Visit Wabash County, the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and an invocation from Brandon Eaton, pastor at Friends Church.

Elected officials will then be sworn in by Indiana Supreme Court Justice Christopher Goff, starting with Long and City Court Judge Tim Roberts.

Next up to be sworn in by Goff will be Judge Robert McCallen, III and Clerk-Treasurer Wendy Frazier.

After that, Goff will swear in the Wabash City Council

including District 1 Representative Mitch Figert, District 2 Representative David Monroe, District 3 Representative Terry Brewer, District 4 Representative Susan Bonfitto, District 5 Representative Doug Adams, and Members At Large Bryan Dillon and John Burnsworth.

Elected LaFontaine town officials will be sworn in next by Goff, including Clerk-Treasurer Diana Heath, and Town Board Members Lori Brane, Jay Gillespie and Ernest John Khrin.

Lagro Clerk-Treasurer Kristie Bone will then be sworn in by Goff.

Long will then swear in Wabash City Schools board member Stephen Dafoe, who was appointed at their Monday, Dec. 9 meeting.

Before issuing closing remarks, Long will present an award to the outgoing Wabash City Council members.

### Election results

For many of those being sworn in, Tuesday's ceremony comes after the results of the Nov. 5 municipal election became final.

One of only three contest-

ed races in Wabash County, Burnsworth and Dillon were victorious over Democrat Dan Townsend. Burnsworth received 496 votes (42.83 percent), Dillon received 401 votes (34.63 percent) and Townsend received 261 votes (22.54 percent).

Below are vote totals for each of the uncontested races in that election:

- Adams (R): 164
- Bonfitto (R): 116
- Brewer (R): 104
- Figert (R): 107
- Frazier (D): 400
- Long (R): 600
- Monroe (R): 61
- Roberts (R): 574



PHOTO PROVIDED

**MYSTERY:** Bruce Rovelstad, left, keels over at the table, Bob Yaggi, right, looks through the magnifying glass and Bev Vanderpool, center, is poisoned during a scene from "Death By Chocolate."

# Experience 'Death by Chocolate'

## Auditions for winter comedy to be held Jan. 11, 2020

### STAFF REPORT

Are you suffering from winter doldrums? Would you like to have some fun? If so, join the Wabash Area Community Theater auditions for the winter comedy "Death by Chocolate."

This show is a hilarious fast-paced "who done it" mystery, directed by legendary Bruce Rovelstad, according to a press release from Bev Vanderpool.

"Rovelstad has given his

dramatic comedy flair to the past four winter comedies," stated the release.

The cast includes three men and four women including sisters Bonbon and Coco. Auditions will be held on from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11, in the Honeywell Center.

"Besides Bonbon and Coco, our cast will consist of several wacky characters including Nick Noir, a bumbling private eye and his

devoted secretary Selma as they try to solve a mystery at the local coffee shop where death seems to come frequently and all with a chocolate concoction," stated the release. "After all, is there anything better than chocolate?"

If being in the show doesn't interest you, are you good at solving puzzles? Do you enjoy a good comedy? If so, try your luck at being a detective.

"This show is 'dinnertainment' at it's best, consisting of dinner and the show in the beautiful Charley Creek Inn Ballroom," stated the release.

Doors open at 6 p.m. and dinner is at 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 6 and Saturday, March 7, 2020; and doors will open at noon and dinner is at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, March 8, 2020.

Tickets are on sale now at the Charley Creek Inn reception desk.

For more information, call Rovelstad at 260-330-0543 or Vanderpool at 765-661-8206.

# Snow and flooding in the forecast

National Weather Service issues hazardous weather outlook warnings

BY ROB BURGESS  
[rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com](mailto:rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com)

Wintry precipitation throughout the region may lead to snow accumulations, icy roads and possible flooding in some areas through Tuesday, according to the National Weather Service (NWS) Northern Indiana.

A hazardous weather outlook warning was issued Monday for northern Indiana.

"Southwest winds will gust up to around 40 miles per hour at times today," stated the warning. "Be sure to secure loose objects. Snow will develop late tonight, mainly along and northwest of Indiana 24.

Light accumulations are possible which could create hazardous travel conditions in time for the Tuesday morning commute. A period of snow is expected Tuesday morning with light accumulations anticipated."

### Slick roads

In a Monday phone interview, Amos Dodson, NWS Northern Indiana meteorologist, said that even though the snow showers moving through the region Monday wouldn't accumulate on the roads, colder air moving in early Tuesday morning with additional accumulations of

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# Indiana State Police welcomes 37 new troopers

Dakota L. Anderson has been assigned to the Peru District

### STAFF REPORT

The 79th Indiana State Police (ISP) Recruit Academy completed its graduation ceremony Thursday, Dec. 19 in the Indiana State Capitol Rotunda, according to a press release.

Among the graduates was Kokomo native Dakota L. Anderson, who has been assigned to the Peru District.

Opening remarks were made by ISP Superintendent Douglas G. Carter and Indiana Lieutenant Governor Suzanne Crouch, followed by a commencement address from James R. White, a retired ISP Lieutenant.

After the commencement address, the oath of office

for the 37 new State Police officers was delivered by The Honorable Justice Christopher M. Goff, of the Indiana Supreme Court. Each new trooper was then presented their badge and official identification by Superintendent Carter and his staff.

The graduation marked the culmination of 25 weeks of intense training which totaled nearly 1,100 hours. Some subject areas of training included criminal and traffic law, crash investigations, emergency vehicle operations, defensive tactics, firearms and a host of other subjects related to modern policing.

Each graduating trooper will be assigned to one of 14 State Police Posts across Indiana. Once at their assigned district, the



PHOTO PROVIDED

**GRADUATION:** The 79th Indiana State Police (ISP) Recruit Academy completed its graduation ceremony Thursday, Dec. 19 in the Indiana State Capitol Rotunda.

See ISP GRADS / Page A2





**BADGE:** Each new trooper was then presented their badge and official identification. PHOTO PROVIDED

ISP GRADS

From Page A1

new troopers will spend the next three months working side by side with a series of

experienced Field Training Officers.

The purpose of the field training is to put to practical application the training received over the duration of the formal academy training.

Upon successful completion of field training, the new troopers will be assigned a state police patrol vehicle and will begin solo patrol in their assigned district.

PULSE

From Page A1

New Holland Road, Andrews. Meet at the interpretive center for a one-hour stroll through the woods along the moderate Tree Trail. Dress for the weather. Families and friendly dogs on leashes welcome. Advance registration is requested by calling 260-468-2127.

Honeywell Foundation's Annual Winter Bash draws near

The Annual Winter Break Bash, hosted by the Honeywell Foundation, will take place Thursday, Jan. 2, 2020 and Friday, Jan. 3, 2020 at various Honeywell Foundation venues including the Honeywell Center and Charley Creek Gardens. For more information about Winter Bash, visit the Honeywell Center website at www.honeywellcenter.org or call the Box Office at 260-563-1102.

January Salamonie Senior Luncheon set

The monthly Salamonie Senior Luncheon will be held at noon Monday, Jan. 6, 2020 at the Salamonie Lake Interpretive Center, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. Anyone age 50 or older is welcome to attend. The program begins with a carry-in meal at noon. Potato soup will be provided. Guests should bring a side dish to share, a beverage and their table service. A \$1 donation will be accepted. Reservations may be made by calling 260-468-2127.

Red Cross schedules blood drive opportunity for Jan. 7, 2020

The Red Cross has scheduled a blood drive opportunity from 2 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2020 at the Wabash County YMCA, 500 S. Cass St.

Artists sought for Honeywell Foundation's art competition

The Honeywell Foundation's Clark Gallery will be hosting its annual 92 County Art Show from Thursday, Jan. 9, 2020 through Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2020. Entries will be accepted from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Jan. 6. For complete guidelines visit www.honeywellcenter.org/92-county-art-show. A public reception for this event will take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2020. For more information, contact Michele Hughes at mhughes@HoneywellFoundation.org or call the Honeywell Center Box Office at 260-563-1102.

'Death by Chocolate' auditions set; tickets on sale

The Wabash Area Community Theater's auditions for the winter comedy "Death by Chocolate" will be held on from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11, in the Honeywell Center. For the show itself, doors open at 6 p.m. and dinner is at 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 6 and Saturday, March 7, 2020; and doors will open at noon and dinner is at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, March 8, 2020. Tickets are on sale now at the Charley Creek Inn reception desk. For more information, call Bruce Rovestad at 260-330-0543 or Bev Vanderpool at 765-661-8206.

Frances Slocum Chapter of the DAR to meet

Wabash County's Frances Slocum Chapter of the Indiana Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 14 at the Grandstaff Hentgen Activity Room, 1241 Manchester Ave. The program will be presented by Beverly Ferry, CEO, Living Well in Wabash County. Prospective members and guests are always welcome to attend. For more information, call Linda Thompson at 260-563-4661 or Barbara Amiss at 260-982-4376.

Low Impact Fitness classes scheduled

Fitness that is both fun and free led by Mary Jo McClelland at 9:45 a.m. every Monday and Thursday, and 3 p.m. Wednesdays at Living Well Winchester Center, 239 Bond St. There is no fee or registration required.

Cancer care advocate available every Tuesday

A cancer care advocate is available from 1 to 4 p.m. every Tuesday at the Winchester Senior Center, 239 Bond St. No appointment is needed. This service is supported by

the Hope Foundation and provided by Cancer Services out of Fort Wayne.

Yoga classes scheduled on Tuesdays

Yoga for those who are intermediate to experienced levels have been scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the Living Well Winchester Center, 239 Bond St. The cost is \$10, and discount passes are available.

Komets game to celebrate Wabash County March 13

Wabash County will be the MVP during the third annual Wabash County Night at the Fort Wayne Komets game at 8:05 p.m. Friday, March 13, 2020 at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, 4000 Parnell Ave., Fort Wayne. While supplies last, tickets can be bought for \$15 per ticket at https://groupmatics.events/event/Wabashcommunity3 or by emailing Mitch Meinholz at mitch@komets.com or by calling 260-482-6812.

Wabash Kiwanis Club's Pancake Day returns in March

The Wabash Kiwanis Club will once again host its annual Pancake Day, which is the local service organization's largest annual fundraiser. The event will take place from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 14 at the Bruce Ingraham building at the Wabash County Fairgrounds, located just off of Gillen Avenue. Tickets will be \$8 at the door and \$7 in advance for those ages 13 years and older, and \$5 at the door and \$4 in advance for children ages 6 to 12 years. Admission for the event will be free for children 5 years and younger.

Editor's note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabashplaindealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.

### 5-Day Weather Summary

|  |                                      |   |  |   |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| <b>Tuesday</b><br>Snow Showers Likely<br>33 / 26 | <b>Wednesday</b><br>Sunny<br>39 / 29 | <b>Thursday</b><br>Chance Rain<br>45 / 37 | <b>Friday</b><br>Scattered Rain<br>48 / 33 | <b>Saturday</b><br>Few Showers<br>37 / 29 |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|

#### Sun and Moon

Today's sunset ..... 5:30 p.m.  
Tomorrow's sunrise ..... 8:12 a.m.

|                     |                     |                     |                    |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| <b>First</b><br>1/2 | <b>Full</b><br>1/10 | <b>Last</b><br>1/17 | <b>New</b><br>1/24 |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|

#### Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see cloudy skies with an 80% chance of snow showers, high of 33°, humidity of 73%. West wind 14 to 21 mph. Snow accumulation of less than one inch possible. Expect partly cloudy skies tonight, overnight low of 26°. West southwest wind 8 to 14 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 18°.

Study could impact treatment for coronary artery disease

**DEAR DOCTOR:** I keep reading about stents, and how it turns out they're no better for blocked arteries than heart meds. How does something like that get decided?

**DEAR READER:** You're referring to the findings from a large international study that evaluated various medical interventions for patients with blocked coronary arteries.

Before we get into the study, we should first

talk about coronary artery disease. This is a condition in which the vessels that supply the heart muscle with oxygen-rich blood become blocked. A substance called plaque – which is made up of cholesterol, calcium, fat and other cells – collects along the inner lining of the arteries and causes them to narrow. This limits the blood flow in the arteries, and, in some cases, can cut it off entirely. When the flow of oxygen-rich blood to the heart slows or stops, the results can range from chest pain, irregular heartbeat and shortness of breath, to heart attack, to an increased risk of stroke. Bits of the hardened plaque can also break free and cause blood clots, which can also limit or stop blood flow.

Coronary artery disease is the most common type of heart disease in the United States. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, it accounts for more than 370,000 deaths each year. It's a serious problem, and researchers have spent decades looking for solutions. These include bypass surgery and the use of stent intervention, which were evaluated in the study.

In bypass surgery, a surgeon uses a blood vessel taken from another part of the patient's body to route the flow of blood around the blocked artery. A less invasive option is the stent, which is a tiny mesh tube implanted into the artery via a long, flexible tube known as a catheter. The surgeon inserts the catheter into an artery in the arm or groin and then, with the help of a special X-ray machine, guides it through the blood vessels until it reaches the desired area. Once in place, the rigid stent physically opens

and supports the artery walls, which allows normal blood flow.

The study you referenced, led by Stanford University and New York University, assessed the medical outcomes of more than 5,100 patients living with moderate to severe coronary artery disease. Researchers divided the study participants into two groups. One group underwent bypass surgery or received a stent. Participants in the other group were prescribed heart medication and instructed to make lifestyle changes, including regular exercise, a healthy diet and quitting smoking. Researchers then followed both groups for between 18 months and seven years, and tracked any cardiac events.

At the end of the study, researchers found that the surgical procedures proved more

successful than medication alone at alleviating exercise-related chest pain. However, in the long run, they saw no difference between the two groups when it came to major coronary events, such as hospitalizations, heart attacks and death. In these instances, medication and lifestyle were as effective as surgical interventions. Whether these new findings help settle what has long been a fierce and sometimes contentious debate about treating coronary artery disease remains to be seen.

Eve Glazier, M.D., MBA, is an internist and associate professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Elizabeth Ko, M.D., is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Send your questions to askthe doctors@mednet.ucla.edu, or write: Ask the Doctors, c/o UCLA Health Sciences Media Relations, 10880 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1450, Los Angeles, CA, 90024. Owing to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.

Elizabeth Ko & Eve Glazier Ask the Doctors



Wabash Plain Dealer

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### READERS' CHOICE REPORTS

#### SUNDAY'S LOTTERIES

Cash 5  
09-21-26-37-43  
Estimated jackpot: \$120,000  
Cash4Life  
01-19-20-25-36, Cash Ball: 3  
Daily Three-Midday  
2-3-1, SB: 3  
Daily Three-Evening  
4-3-8, SB: 7  
Daily Four-Midday  
1-9-1-7, SB: 3  
Daily Four-Evening  
3-3-7-0, SB: 7  
Mega Millions  
Estimated jackpot: \$55 million  
Powerball  
Estimated jackpot: \$220 million

#### MONDAY'S METALS

Aluminum .81  
Copper 2.82  
Lead .87  
Zinc 1.04  
Gold 1,514.90  
Silver 17.93  
Platinum 957.40

#### AREA GRAIN

Estimated grain prices  
Monday at Indianapolis-area elevators: Corn: \$4.05. Soybeans: \$9.31.

### Roxy 5 Showtimes for Friday, December 27- Thursday, January 2

All showtimes have Closed Captioning available.

**Star Wars: Episode IX- The Rise of Skywalker in 2D (PG13)**  
Fri- Sat: 12:25, 3:25, 6:10, 6:50, 9:10, 9:55  
Sun- Thurs: 12:25, 3:25, 6:10, 6:50

**Spies in Disguise (PG)**  
Fri- Sat: 12:45, 3:45, 6:40, 9:30  
Sun- Thurs: 12:45, 3:45, 6:40

**Little Women (PG)**  
Fri- Sat: 12:35, 3:35, 6:30, 9:40  
Sun- Thurs: 12:35, 3:35, 6:30

**Jumanji: The Next Level in 2D (PG13)**  
Fri- Sat: 1:10, 4:05, 7:05 10:05  
Sun- Thurs: 1:10, 4:05, 7:05

**Frozen II in 2D (PG)**  
Fri- Thurs: 12:55, 3:55

For more information please call  
**765-460-5322**  
or visit us online at [www.roxyperu.com](http://www.roxyperu.com)  
Located at 100 Roxy Lane, North edge of Peru





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Roann Chapel • 765-833-5591  
Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Wabash • 260-563-0421  
www.grandstaff-hentgen.com

Betty Marie Saunders  
Jan. 16, 1968 - Dec. 27, 2019

Betty Marie Saunders, 51, of Warsaw, Indiana, died at 4:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 27, 2019 at Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home in Fort Wayne, Indiana. She was born Jan. 16, 1968 in Wabash, Indiana to Forest and Eleonore (Mueller) Smith.

Betty was a 1986 graduate of Southwood High School, and received her nursing certificate from Ivy Tech in Fort Wayne. She served the senior community in Wabash County for 30 years. Betty enjoyed going to the beach, working in the pool, being on the water and camping, gardening, and was a huge Jimmy Buffet fan. She especially enjoyed being with her grandkids.

She is survived by two daughters, Erika (Wesley) Shilling and Erin (Har-



old) Rennaker, and 4 grandchildren, Trace Shilling, Ian Shilling, Ellie Rennaker, and Violet Rennaker, all of Warsaw, mother, Eleonore Smith of Wabash, and brothers and sister, James “Jim” (Jill) Smith of Wabash, Fred (Rose) Smith of LaFontaine, Indiana, Gary Smith, and Kristl (Charlie) Andrews, both of Wabash. She was preceded in death by her father, Forest Smith.

Private services will be held at a later date. Arrangements by Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash.

Preferred memorial is Wabash County Cancer Society.

The memorial guest book for Betty may be signed at [www.grandstaff-hentgen.com](http://www.grandstaff-hentgen.com).

Ernest G. ‘Ernie’ Barr

Memorial services for Ernest G. “Ernie” Barr, 93, of North Manchester, were 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019 at the Timbercrest Senior Living Community Chapel.

Pastor Kurt Borgmann officiated, Ernie’s brother John Barr played the organ and piano, and Ernie’s

granddaughter Stephanie Hollenberg was the vocalist. Special remembrances were given by Ernie’s daughter Kathleen Barr Hollenberg, Ernie’s grandson Robert Miller, and friend Wilson Lutz. Arrangements were handled by Grandstaff-Hentgen Bender Chapel, North Manchester.

Alan Templin

Funeral Services for Alan Eugene Templin, 67, of Wabash, were 20 p.m., Friday, Dec. 27, 2019 at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash. His brother, Merrill Templin officiated.

Pallbearers were Benj Daniel, Dustin Templin, Brogan Templin, Jeremy Felheim, Jeremy Monroe, and Michael Shoemaker. Burial was in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Wabash.

Larry Dewayne Boring

Funeral Services for Larry Dewayne Boring, 74, of rural Lagro, were 11 a.m., Monday, Dec. 30, 2019 at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash. Rev. Rick Borgman officiated. Memorials were shared by his granddaughter, Sable Shoue.

Pallbearers were Benj Daniel, Dustin Templin, Brogan Templin, Jeremy Felheim, Jeremy Monroe, and Michael Shoemaker. Burial was in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Wabash.

IN BRIEF

Telsa rear-ends fire truck in Indiana, killing Arizona woman

CLOVERDALE (AP) — Indiana police are investigating a fatal crash involving a Tesla car that rear-ended a fire truck parked along Interstate 70, killing an Arizona woman and seriously injuring her husband.

Derrick N. Monet, 25, of Prescott Valley, Arizona, was behind the wheel of a 2019 Tesla traveling along I-70 in western Indiana’s Putnam County when he failed to the see the parked fire truck Sunday morning and plowed into its rear, said Sgt. Matt Ames with Indiana State Police.

Both Monet and his wife, Jenna N. Monet, 23, also of Prescott Valley, Arizona, were seriously injured. Jenna Monet was later pronounced dead at a Terre Haute hospital.

Police said the Cloverdale Fire Department fire truck was parked along the highway, its emergency lights activated while responding to a single-vehicle crash, when Sunday’s collision occurred, police said.

Ames said Derrick Monet told investigators he regularly uses his Tesla’s autopilot mode, but that “due to the impact of the accident he cannot recall whether or not he had it on at the time of the accident.”

State police are continuing to investigate whether or not the autopilot was activated and planned to contact Tesla as part of their investigation, he said.

Ames said that at the time of Sunday’s crash the Monets

were traveling from Arizona to Maryland.

ISU’s Dreiser Hall to get \$18M renovation thanks to funding

TERRE HAUTE (AP) — Indiana State University’s Dreiser Hall is set to undergo an \$18.4 million renovation that will replace much of the 70-year-old building’s aging infrastructure.

The State Budget Committee recently approved the release of the funds for the renovation after state lawmakers approved the funding during their last session.

The project will improve the building’s HVAC and plumbing systems, its fire suppression system and electrical needs and also bring it into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Dreiser Hall’s classrooms will also be upgraded to include state-of-the-art technology to allow individuals statewide to earn a degree at a distance, the Tribune-Star reported.

Work on the project should begin around June 1 and take about 16 months to complete, said Diann McKee, ISU’s senior vice president of finance and administration.

Dreiser Hall was built in 1950 and houses academic programs in the College of Arts and Sciences, including multiple communication classes, student media, video production, a student operated radio station, distance education classrooms, and a 255-seat theater.

# With births down, U.S. had slowest growth rate in a century

BY MIKE SCHNEIDER  
Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — The past year’s population growth rate in the United States was the slowest in a century due to declining births, increasing deaths and the slowdown of international migration, according to figures released Monday by the U.S. Census Bureau.

The U.S. grew from 2018 to 2019 by almost a half percent, or about 1.5 million people, with the population standing at 328 million this year, according to population estimates.

That’s the slowest growth rate in the U.S. since 1917 to 1918, when the nation was involved in World War I, said William Frey, a senior fellow at The Brookings Institution.

For the first time in decades, natural increase – the number of births minus the number of deaths – was less than 1 million in the U.S. due to an aging population of Baby Boomers, whose oldest members entered their

70s within the past several years. As the large Boomer population continues to age, this trend is going to continue.

“Some of these things are locked into place. With the aging of the population, as the Baby Boomers move into their 70s and 80s, there are going to be higher numbers of deaths,” Frey said. “That means proportionately fewer women of child bearing age, so even if they have children, it’s still going to be less.”

Four states had a natural decrease, where deaths outnumbered births: West Virginia, Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont.

For the first time this decade, Puerto Rico had a population increase. The island, battered by economic stagnation and Hurricane Maria in the past several years, increased by 340 people between 2018 and 2019, with people moving to the island offsetting natural decrease.

International migration to the U.S. decreased to

595,000 people from 2018 to 2019, dropping from as many as 1 million international migrants in 2016, according to the population estimates. Immigration restrictions by the Trump administration combined with a perception that the U.S. has fewer economic opportunities than it did before the recession a decade ago contributed to the decline, Frey said.

“Immigration is a wildcard in that it is something we can do something about,” Frey said. “Immigrants tend to be younger and have children, and they can make a population younger.”

Ten states had population declines in the past year. They included New York, which lost almost 77,000 people; Illinois, which lost almost 51,000 residents; West Virginia, which lost more than 12,000 people; Louisiana, which lost almost 11,000 residents; and Connecticut, which lost 6,200 people. Mississippi, Hawaii, New Jersey, Alaska

and Vermont each lost less than 5,000 residents.

Regionally, the South saw the greatest population growth from 2018 to 2019, increasing 0.8 percent due to natural increase and people moving from others parts of the country. The Northeast had a population decrease for the first time this decade, declining 0.1 percent due primarily to people moving away.

Monday’s population estimates also offer a preview of which states may gain or lose congressional seats from next year’s apportionment process using figures from the 2020 Census. The process divides up the 435 U.S. House seats among the 50 states based on population.

Several forecasts predict California, the nation’s most populous state with 39.5 million residents, losing a seat for the first time. Texas, the nation’s second most-populous state with 28.9 million residents, is expected to gain as many as three seats, the most of any state.

# Legal marijuana sales may spark Midwest interstate tension

BY KATHLEEN FOODY  
and DAVID EGERT  
Associated Press

CHICAGO — Retailers legally selling marijuana for the past month in Michigan say they have drawn customers from surrounding Midwestern states where the drug remains illegal and, as Illinois prepares to joins the recreational market on Wednesday, officials are renewing warnings to consumers against carrying such products over state lines.

The dynamic is familiar for states on the West and East coasts where the sale and use of marijuana has been broadly allowed since Colorado’s market opened in 2014, despite a federal ban that created a patchwork of legal and cultural snares. Nebraska and Oklahoma went so far as to file an unsuccessful lawsuit against Colorado, arguing that its marijuana law would have ill effects for surrounding states.

In the years since, the industry has wrestled with questions over companies’ obligation to pay federal income taxes or follow laws on employee safety. Other thorny issues confronted state regulators, who were forced to determine suitable pesticides for growing cannabis plants, and which ingredients were safe to include in products meant to be eaten or burned. That terrain is usually reserved for federal agencies.

The tensest point, though, remains the illegal market that has survived in states with legal cannabis markets. Some of that product comes from outside the legal systems tracked closely by states’ regulators, while other states have struggled to keep “diverted” legal marijuana from bleeding into the illegal market at home or in far-flung states.

Data also suggests that some customers will cross state lines in search of state-licensed marijuana retailers, despite warnings that it’s illegal to bring the product

“Supply and demand tells us it’s going to be a constant thing, regulations can only do so much and once product leaves a state, it ceases to be a regulatory problem and becomes a criminal one.”

— Sam Kamin, Professor of marijuana law at the University of Denver

back home.

The start of legal sales in Michigan on Dec. 1 and in Illinois on Jan. 1 brings that same climate to the Midwest, where some neighboring states allow limited marijuana use for medical purposes. But none other has moved to permit recreational use.

States often differ in the regulation of contentious issues, including guns, speed limits and the drinking age. But Sam Kamin, a professor of marijuana law and policy at the University of Denver, said interstate accusations about the effect of marijuana sales on legal states’ neighbors are likely to linger unless federal law changes.

“Supply and demand tells us it’s going to be a constant thing,” Kamin said. “Regulations can only do so much and once product leaves a state, it ceases to be a regulatory problem and becomes a criminal one.”

Illinois is the 11th state to broadly allow marijuana’s use and sale, shrinking early states’ market advantage and ability to draw tourists. Industry analysts expect “canna-tourism” will remain popular in some places, such as Las Vegas, but that most companies trying to survive in an expensive, challenging industry must build a local customer base.

“Nonresident demand is not going to be the primary driver of revenue in these Midwestern states,” said John Kagia, chief knowledge officer at the industry analytics firm New Frontier Data. “Local consumers

will be that primary driver.”

Kagia said available data on nonresident buyers suggests the percentage of traveling shoppers varies dramatically between states. One Colorado study found that about 9 percent of total cannabis product demand came from visitors to the state, while New Frontier Data estimates that the share of purchases by visitors in Nevada is about 25 percent.

In Michigan, where \$4.7 million of recreational marijuana was sold in the first three weeks of December, regulators do not know how much was bought by out-of-state customers. But shops say business has been brisk, particularly from neighboring Ohio and Indiana and nearby Illinois.

“There’s been people from all over,” said Bart Kupczyk, co-owner and director of retail at Ann Arbor-based Greenstone Provisions, one of 23 Michigan retailers licensed for adult-use recreational sales. “Ann Arbor is close to Ohio. It’s a destination city in its own right as a fairly well-known college town.”

Some 45 miles to the south in Morenci, a town of 2,100 people along the Ohio border, a dispensary has reported that a majority of its customers hail from Ohio, where only medical marijuana is legal. Another retailer in Morenci secured its state license last week.

“It is important for residents of Ohio and non-residents traveling through the state to understand possession of marijuana remains a criminal violation in Ohio, even if it is purchased le-

gally in another state which permits recreational use,” said Staff Lt. Craig Cvetan, public affairs commander for the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

Illinois marijuana companies said they have trained employees to remind non-residents that their products cannot legally be transported across state lines and can only be consumed in private residences or hotels that permit it. Cities can decide to allow marijuana consumption at tobacco shops or dispensaries, but none will have rules in place by January, said Pamela Althoff, executive director of the Cannabis Business Association of Illinois.

“If you want to enter into Illinois and participate in consuming cannabis, you need to be responsible and you need to know the law,” she said. “Just like alcohol, this should not be something you plan to consume and then get back in the car.”

Nonresidents can purchase less marijuana than Illinois residents under the state’s new law, and law enforcement in surrounding states have announced plans to strictly enforce their standing restriction on marijuana. Michigan’s single-transaction limit is the same for residents and nonresidents.

At Green Thumb Industries’ five “Rise” dispensaries licensed to sell recreational products in Illinois, employees have been trained to remind non-residents customers that they can’t bring marijuana products home and to warn them not to drive after consuming, said Dina Rollman, the company’s senior vice president of government and regulatory affairs.

“We’re most focused on serving the people of Illinois, but we recognize that we’re surrounded by states that have not legalized cannabis for recreational use,” Rollman said. “Our focus is just on education for those consumers, so that we can be compliant.”



speak up

How to contact your legislators:

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Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 123 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplainealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.

inspiration corner

Daily scripture

And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."  
— Matthew 22:37-39

The spirit of endeavor has not dimmed in 2019

These can seem unsettling times. Populism is on the rise; liberal democracy is under pressure. Protectionism is threatening to stifle free trade. China and the U.S. are locked in what seems ever more like a new cold war. Leaders are struggling to agree on how to cut carbon emissions. Extreme weather events are increasing. Yet amid the uncertainty, stories of extraordinary people have been the bright spot.

Countless citizens across the world have shown the power of the human body, mind and spirit to achieve remarkable things in 2019. The Financial Times chose Satya Nadella as its person of the year for reviving Microsoft while instilling a new purpose and sense of humility. Many others deserve to be honoured.

In April, a team of scientists developed the first picture of a black hole, an astronomical phenomenon from which no light can escape. Katie Bouman, a young computer scientist, became the symbol of the achievement for using her know-how to craft an algorithm that could stitch together the images from a network of telescopes. Outer space witnessed other new human firsts. Fifty years after the moon landing, astronauts Christina Koch and Jessica Meir took part in the first all-female spacewalk while China's

Chang'e 4 mission completed the first successful "soft" landing on the far side of the moon.

Many of the greatest individual achievements this year have been internal: victories over our own limits. Eliud Kipchoge was the first human to run a marathon in under two hours. He achieved the milestone in a time trial in Vienna in October, helped by a laser routemarker, a team of support staff and 41 pacemakers. Jasmin Paris became the first woman to win the 268-mile Montane Spine Race, breastfeeding her 14-month old daughter on the way. Nepalese mountain climber Nirmal "Nims" Purja, a former Gurkha, scaled the 14 highest peaks in the world in six months, beating the existing speed record by more than seven years.

Others have depended on teamwork: Siya Kolisi, captain of the world cup winning rugby team, became the first black South African to lift the trophy. Megan Rapinoe, captain of the U.S. team that won the women's football world cup, used her platform to call for equal pay. Ben Stokes, the English cricketer, secured the world cup for his nation in highly dramatic style.

This was the year when humans began to harness the power of quantum computers: a team at Alphabet, Google's parent, de-

clared they had achieved "quantum supremacy," as their device beat a traditional computer. Others focused on making sure that technological advances did not mean abandoning morality: Meredith Whittaker, an artificial intelligence worker who had led protests about her employer Google's policies in 2018, resigned from her job this year.

Others have demonstrated the human power for creativity. Bernadine Evaristo became the first black woman to win the Booker prize this year. She shared it with Margaret Atwood, who first won the prestigious prize close to two decades ago. Stormzy, a British rapper, not only crafted stunning imagery in his headline set at Glastonbury, but a scholarship he funds was credited with an increase in the number of black students applying to the elite University of Cambridge.

Those listed here are just the tip of the iceberg. Many of the most extraordinary people go unsung in unglamorous jobs, doing the work of caring for others day in, day out. They are a reminder that no matter how dark the news appears to be, the spirit of human endeavour remains undimmed. The FT salutes them.

This editorial was first published in The Financial Times.

What does consumer spending do for our economy?

With the year ending, the one enduring bright spot of the domestic economy is consumer spending. Over the past decade, consumer spending accounted for between 67 and 69 percent of our total economy or gross domestic product (GDP). Consumers are a large and stable share of total demand for goods and services. However, continued high demand for consumer goods is not the same thing as economic growth. It is mistake to think that consumer spending is causing GDP growth, when consumer spending is simply a measure of demand.

Over the long term, economic growth is caused exclusively by productivity growth. That is simply, how much more, per worker, the economy can produce or supply. Globally, how much we produce is identically equal to how much we can consume. However, inside each nation, we can sometimes consume more than we produce because other nations lend us money to do so. To borrow money like this is an example of economic strength, which, by the way, leads to trade deficits. That is another story.

We should be mostly worried about long-term economic growth. I don't wish to minimize the ill-effects of a recession, which can be very disruptive to many families. However, the short-run ups and downs we call the business cycle are forever with us. Our long-term prosperity is determined far more by long-term growth than short-term ups and downs. Stable household spending helps keep us on our long-term growth path, but does nothing directly to cause changes to long-term growth.

Consumer spending as a share of GDP does vary over time. In the 1960s it ranged from 61.8 to 59.6 percent of GDP. It has been rising fairly steadily since, plateauing at the current level for more than a decade. It has also grown far more stable, which indirectly helps reduce economic volatility. Why these changes occur are themselves and interesting side note to the economy.

American consumption patterns changed significantly over the past 90 years or so. In 1929, we spent about 70 percent of our family earnings on goods and only 30 percent on services. We were much poorer then, and so we allocated a larger share of spending to food, clothing, housing, transportation and the like. Movies, recreational activities, health and education were a smaller share of our family spending.

By the mid-1960s spending on services rose to half of household income, and today sits above 70 percent. This is true across most developed nations, and provides us a more stable levels of consumer spending. The reason for this is straightforward. In the face of rising fear of a recession, goods consumption can be delayed. We might delay the purchase of a TV, wait until next year to replace the car, or maybe hold off on that new RV purchase.

The consumption of services is harder to delay until good times return. So, families continue to pay medical, schooling, our cable TV bill, life insurance, and other items that cannot easily be deferred until the fears of a recession pass.

Demographics also play a role. Families with heads of household in their 50s and 60s spend very differently than families in their 20s and 30s, but the composition of a family are very important. Single people spend more on housing, but less on transportation or apparel than everyone else does. Married families with children spend much more on pension savings and insurance.

Family income also matters, with wealthy families increasing their spending on insurance and pensions, as well as food at home and housing. The poorest families spent a larger share on food at home and transportation services.

Strong consumer spending is a hopeful sign, because families take into account their personal economic conditions when making spending decisions. So, continued spending signals a widely held belief that the economy remains strong. With unemployment rates low, and solid wage growth, there is little to suggest consumers will spend less in the coming year. This is good news, not because that spending will cause the economy to grow, but rather that sustained consumer spending makes it less likely that we'll slip into a short-run economic downturn.

Michael J. Hicks, PhD, is the director of the Center for Business and Economic Research and the George and Frances Ball distinguished professor of economics in the Miller College of Business at Ball State University. Hicks earned doctoral and master's degrees in economics from the University of Tennessee and a bachelor's degree in economics from Virginia Military Institute. He has authored two books and more than 60 scholarly works focusing on state and local public policy, including tax and expenditure policy and the impact of Wal-Mart on local economies.

Michael Hicks



Wal-Mart shows us how we can do good by doing well

By T. Norman Van Cott

Among economists' insights over the last almost 250 years, one of the keenest is that one can do good while doing well.

The idea traces to Adam Smith. It means capitalists' and entrepreneurs' pursuit of profit can have favorable consequences for the community at large – and not just for capitalists and entrepreneurs. It applies equally to landowners and workers pursuing their own interests.

The following are two of Smith's statements of the "doing good while doing well" proposition. The first is from "The Wealth of Nations" and the latter from Smith's 1759 "Theory of Moral Sentiments."

"It is not from the benevolence of the Butcher, the Brewer or the Baker that we expect our dinner, but from their regard to their own interest."

"Every individual ... neither intends to promote the public interest, nor knows how much he is promoting it ... he intends only his own security; and by directing that industry in such a manner as its produce may be of the greatest value, he intends only his own gain, and he is in this, as in many other cases, led by an invisible hand to promote an end which was no part of his intention."

One frequently hears about capitalists and entrepreneurs making substantial gifts either before or after their deaths to universities and other non-profit organizations. Many say it is an opportunity for them to "give back," which suggests, at least to me, that the wealth making the gifts possible was obtained in less than noble ways. Regardless, the benefits the commu-

nity at large reaps from these gifts are not what the doing good while doing well proposition is about.

The "doing good while doing well" proposition does not describe government officials' actions.

Rather, the proposition refers to the process by which the capitalists and entrepreneurs earn their wealth. It's not what they do with their accrued wealth. It's the benefit the community realizes as this wealth is accrued. To paraphrase Smith, people enjoy the benefits of meat, beer, and bread as a result of their respective producers' efforts to earn a profit. What these producers do with their wealth is a different question.

For government officials, making personal monetary profits from their jobs is illegal. The result when government officials pursue their own interests, given this illegality, is the topic of the public choice economics. The results do not parallel those of Adam Smith.

The Christmas season each year brings with it churches and benevolent groups organizing distributions of food baskets. I have participated in these efforts, though probably with less enthusiasm than others. Americans are surrounded 24/7 by a process (Smith's invisible hand) that is wealth-producing for all, thereby making these charitable acts possible.

Always in the back of my mind was the "doing good while doing well" proposition. That is, how do the effects of the proposition compare with the distributions by churches and benevolent groups? To repeat a previous cautioning, how does the process by which capitalists/entrepreneurs pursue profit affect the community

at large?

My mind went to the case of Wal-Mart. No one would deny that Wal-Mart is a profit-pursuing entity. At the same time, there is credible evidence that Wal-Mart's presence in a community reduces food prices between 10 percent and 15 percent. Put on an annual basis, this is equivalent to food shoppers receiving 5.2 to 7.8 weeks of additional food shopping per year. It follows that Wal-Mart spreads far more holiday food cheer than churches and public service groups do.

Food basket distributions presumably trace to noble intentions, while pursuit of profit is widely held to be ignoble. Noble trumps ignoble. That's why the doing good while doing well proposition has always been a tough sell for economists. For many, good things only happen when people intend to do good things.

None of the above is meant to trivialize church food baskets during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Nor is it meant to disparage those making end-of-life or after-life contributions to colleges/universities or not-for-profit institutions. These acts of charity have long played a vital role in American life. Moreover, they are voluntary, and I would be the last to put them down.

Instead, my purpose is to point out that Americans are surrounded 24/7 by a process (Smith's invisible hand) that is wealth-producing for all, thereby making these charitable acts possible.

T. Norman Van Cott, Ph.D., professor of economics and adjunct scholar of the Indiana Policy Review Foundation, was formerly chair of the Ball State University Economics Department. A version of this article was published by the Foundation for Economic Education.





# Open In Indiana announces new website and magazine

Group looks to promote local people, places and events

**Staff Report**  
After over a year of planning and development, Open In Indiana announced the launch of a new website and a quarterly publication, The Open In Indiana Magazine, according to a press release.  
Founded in 2017, Open In Indiana started as an online community to promote locally owned businesses in central Indiana.  
“Open In Indiana’s mission is to promote the people, places and events that make

Indiana a great place to live, work and visit,” stated the release. “Revised in September 2019, our new website is designed to help visitors find local businesses and events in their community.”  
The Open In Indiana Magazine is a free publication featuring local people, places and events throughout the state of Indiana.  
Open In Indiana hosts small business networking events and workshops where we feature speakers and top-

ics relevant to how entrepreneurs create, market and grow their own business.  
“Our recently updated website now includes the ability for entrepreneurs and business owners anywhere in the state to join,” stated the release. “The new Open In Indiana website is designed to make it easy to connect with fellow entrepreneurs, find local businesses and events in your community. Open In Indiana members can create their member profile, add their business listing and publish events on our event calendar.”  
Each issue, The Open In Indiana Magazine features

a main story about an event or timely topic, artist profile, upcoming events and a business tip column targeted to small business owners.  
“The Open In Indiana Magazine extends our content distribution beyond digital to a growing consumer audience,” stated the release. “The Open In Indiana Magazine officially debuted with 10,000 copies for distribution to our members at Open In Indiana Events, at local businesses beginning in Central Indiana with expansion planned for future issues. The magazine is also available in digital format on our website.”

# Pathfinder Services Amramp Indiana administrator earns title

Jack Barlow awarded the designation of Certified Aging-In-Place Specialist

**Staff Report**  
Pathfinder Services Amramp Indiana administrator Jack Barlow has earned the designation of Certified Aging-In-Place Specialist (CAPS) from the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), according to a press release.  
As a certified specialist, Barlow is considered an expert in the technical, business

management and customer service skills necessary to be competitive in home modifications for the aging-in-place, considered one of the fastest-growing segments of the residential remodeling industry.  
Barlow can easily identify common challenges of functioning in a real-world environment for the aging-in-place population and offer

solutions that best fit the client through Amramp Indiana.  
Serving Fort Wayne, Huntington, Marion, Muncie, Wabash and Anderson, Amramp provides accessibility solutions for homes and businesses that include wheelchair ramps, stairlifts and vertical platform lifts. Amramp’s trained professionals provide free on-site evaluations, whether it’s a residence, church, school, or business. Amramp also accommodates the construction and commercial industries

offering ADA wheelchair ramps for purchase and rental.  
Amramp of Northeast Indiana carries special distinction in the Amramp family as a division of Pathfinder Services, a well-known Indiana nonprofit dedicated to serving special needs. Amramp’s modular steel wheelchair ramp systems can be found all through Northeast Indiana.  
For more information, call 260-519-1935 or email jack.barlow@amramp.com.

# As robots take over warehousing, human workers pushed to adapt to new issues

BY MATT O'BRIEN  
AP Technology Writer

NORTH HAVEN, Conn. — Guess who’s getting used to working with robots in their everyday lives? The very same warehouse workers once predicted to be losing their jobs to mechanical replacements.  
But doing your job side-by-side with robots isn’t easy. According to their makers, the machines should take on the most mundane and physically strenuous tasks. In reality, they’re also creating new forms of stress and strain in the form of injuries and the unease of working in close quarters with mobile half-ton devices that direct themselves.  
“They weigh a lot,” Amazon worker Amanda Taillon said during the pre-Christmas rush at a company warehouse in Connecticut. Nearby, a fleet of 6-foot-tall roving robot shelves zipped around behind a chain-link fence.  
Taillon’s job is to enter a cage and tame Amazon’s wheeled warehouse robots for long enough to pick up a fallen toy or relieve a traffic jam. She straps on a light-up utility belt that works like a superhero’s force field, commanding the nearest robots to abruptly halt and the others to slow down or adjust their routes.  
Taillon says she’s gotten used to working with robots — something Amazon and its rivals are increasingly requiring warehouse employees to do. Amazon now has more than 200,000 robotic vehicles it calls “drives” that are moving goods through its delivery-fulfillment centers around the U.S. That’s double the number it had last year and up from 15,000 units in 2014.  
Its rivals have taken notice, and many are adding their own robots in a race to speed up productivity and bring down costs.  
Without these fast-moving pods, robotic arms and other forms of warehouse automation, retailers say they wouldn’t be able to fulfill consumer demand for packages that can land on doorsteps the day after you order them online.  
But while fears that robots will replace human workers haven’t come to fruition,

there are growing concerns that keeping up with the pace of the latest artificial intelligence technology is taking a toll on human workers’ health, safety and morale.  
Warehouses powered by robotics and AI software are leading to human burnout by adding more work and upping the pressure on workers to speed up their performance, said Beth Gutelius, who studies urban economic development at the University of Illinois at Chicago and has interviewed warehouse operators around the U.S.  
It’s not that workers aren’t getting trained on how to work with robots safely. “The problem is it becomes very difficult to do so when the productivity standards are set so high,” she said.  
Much of the boom in warehouse robotics has its roots in Amazon’s \$775 million purchase of Massachusetts startup Kiva Systems in 2012. The tech giant re-branded it as Amazon Robotics and transformed it into an in-house laboratory that for seven years has been designing and building Amazon’s robot armada.  
Amazon’s Kiva purchase “set the tone for all the other retailers to stand up and pay attention,” said Jim Liefer, CEO of San Francisco startup Kindred AI, which makes an artificially intelligent robotic arm that grasps and sorts items for retailers such as The Gap.  
A rush of venture capital and private sector investment in warehouse robotics spiked to \$1.5 billion a year in 2015 and has remained high ever since, said Rian Whitton, a robotics analyst at ABI Research.  
Canadian e-commerce company Shopify spent \$450 million this fall to buy Massachusetts-based startup 6 River Systems, which makes an autonomous cart nicknamed Chuck that can follow workers around a warehouse. Other mobile robot startups are partnering with delivery giants such as FedEx and DHL or retailers such as Walmart.  
Amazon this year bought another warehouse robotics startup, Colorado-based Canvas Technology, which builds wheeled robots guided by computer vision. Such robots

would be more fully autonomous than Amazon’s current fleet of caged-off vehicles, which have to follow bar codes and previously mapped routes within warehouses.  
The tech giant is also still rolling out new models descended from the Kiva line, including the Pegasus, a squarish vehicle with a conveyor belt on top that can be found working the early-morning shift at a warehouse in the Phoenix suburb of Goodyear, Arizona. A crisscrossing fleet of robots carries packaged items across the floor and drops them into chutes based on the zip code of their final destination.  
All of this is transforming warehouse work in a way that the head of Amazon Robotics says can “extend human capability” by shifting people to what they are best at: problem-solving, common sense and thinking on their feet.  
“The efficiencies we gain from our associates and robotics working together harmoniously — what I like to call a symphony of humans and machines working together — allows us to pass along a lower cost to our customer,” said Tye Brady, Amazon Robotics’ chief technologist.  
Brady said worker safety remains the top priority and ergonomic design is engineered into the systems at the beginning of the design stage. Gutelius, the University of Illinois researcher, said that the aspiration for symphonic human-machine operations is not always working out in practice.  
“It sounds quite lovely, but I rarely hear from a worker’s perspective that that’s what it feels like,” she said.  
Gutelius co-authored a report published this fall that found new warehouse technology could contribute to wage stagnation, higher turnover and poorer quality work experiences because of the way AI software can monitor and micro-manage workers’ behaviors.  
A recent journalistic investigation of injury rates at Amazon warehouses from The Center for Investigative Reporting’s Reveal found that robotic warehouses reported more injuries than those without.

Reveal looked at records from 28 Amazon warehouses in 16 states and found that the overall rate of serious injuries was more than double the warehousing industry average. Amazon has countered it’s misleading to compare its rate with rivals because of the company’s “aggressive stance on recording injuries no matter how big or small.”  
The Reveal report also found a correlation between robots and safety problems, such as in Tracy, California, where the serious injury rate nearly quadrupled in the four years after robots were introduced.  
Melonee Wise, CEO of California-based Fetch Robotics, which sells its autonomous robotic carts to retailers and other clients, credits Amazon’s Kiva acquisition for propelling innovation in the industry.  
But she said that Amazon’s system forces workers to do “un-ergonomic moves” such as reaching up high or crouching down to pick out and stow inventory into the shelves-on-wheels.  
“They have robots that live in cages,” she said. “Our robots are designed to work safely around people, which is a very large distinction between the two systems.”  
Amazon hasn’t disclosed how its safety record at robot-powered warehouses compares to those without. But company officials remain optimistic that Amazon workers are adapting to the new technology.  
At a visit with a reporter earlier in December to the warehouse in North Haven, Connecticut, Brady was explaining the workings of a powerful robotic arm called a “palletizer” when crates it was stacking on a pallet started tumbling over. Unfazed by the temporary malfunction, he watched as an employee disabled the machine, discovered an apparent structural weakness in the pallet, adjusted the stack of crates and let the robot get back to work.  
“His ability to problem-solve that was like this,” Brady said, enthusiastically snapping his fingers. “What I love about that is it’s humans and machines working together.”

# Here’s some good financial cheer to ring in the New Year

There’s so much negative news that I’d like to end the year with some financial triumphs.  
Each week, I host a live online discussion answering readers’ personal finance questions. But I also use the Thursday forum to allow people to share their successes. Here are just some of the testimonies, starting with one I received last January after the end of the partial government shutdown, which lasted 35 days, the longest in history.  
My savings grace:

Michelle Singletary



“I was part of the most recent government shutdown and wanted to say thank you for being the voice in the back of my mind for the last few years that encouraged me to be prepared for situations just like this. I am very thankful to have gotten through relatively unscathed, thanks exclusively to my savings. I started reading your work after just graduating and starting my first salaried job, and as much as I wanted to splurge, you convinced me that beyond my emergency fund I needed a ‘life-happens fund,’ something I had never heard of before. Ironically, I left that job for a ‘more secure’ government job and was tempted to spend down some of my emergency fund because I was so sure that I was living with less risk now. On the day of my first missed paycheck, I had to take my beloved pet to an emergency vet visit, and my car wouldn’t start. Thanks to my life-happens fund, I didn’t have to hesitate about taking my pup to the vet or getting my car repaired. When I missed a second paycheck, I was blessedly still able to cover my rent and bills from my emergency fund. I will never again second guess the money I’ve saved, and now that I’ve received back pay, I’ve replenished both funds.”  
Stuck to a strict debt-payment plan: “We were \$55,000 in debt and paid \$1,200 a month to pay it off in about four and a half years. My husband was disabled with limited income, and I worked a second, part-time job to help make ends meet. It was hard, but I’m thankful we did the hard work, as I am now debt-free aside from my mortgage. My husband passed away unexpectedly about three months before it was all paid off in mid-2018. At least I no longer have a pile of debt to deal with along with the difficulties that come with the loss of a spouse.”


Credit card debt kicked to the curb: “I managed to pay off a little over \$8,000 in nine months. It was tight some months, but we did it. We have one more to go, and if my budgeting is correct, it should be gone by March 2020.”  
Another beat down of credit card debt: “It took two years, but we paid off \$22,000 plus. Now my husband and I have fully funded retirement accounts, a four-month emergency fund and money in our kids’ college funds. As we head into what looks like some economic headwinds, I feel much more secure and know my family can survive what happens next — government shutdown, layoffs ... who knows.”  
Mortgage monkey gone: “After paying for 19 years, my husband and I paid off our mortgage! We each only have one year left on car loans and no other debt.”  
Student loans gone: “Paid off my student loan seven and a half years early! I just wanted to thank you and your chaters for sharing their stories to keep me motivated the past couple years! For anyone wondering how: After I established an emergency fund, I started throwing anything I could at the student loan. I saw it as something I actively needed to get out of my life, so it made it easier to pass up on spending cash I could put towards the loan. I feel like I just vanquished a foe.”  
Out of the mouths of babes: “My 13 year old used a gift card he received for Christmas, but with tax, the total came to 22 cents more than the value of the card. I gave him the money and told him not to worry about it. He taped 22 cents to a note that said, ‘I don’t like being in debt.’”  
Slow and steady won their race: “We started serious saving at age 32. Priorities were, in order: 10 percent tithe, 20 percent savings, pay taxes, figure out how to live on what was left. Retired six months ago with over \$2.5 million. While a good stock market has been a factor, the benefits of making savings a priority cannot be denied.”  
This is the evidence of what’s possible. What will your testimony be in 2020?

Readers can write to Michelle Singletary c/o The Washington Post, 1301 K St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20071. Her email address is michelle.singletary@washpost.com. Follow her on Twitter (@SingletaryM) or Facebook (www.facebook.com/MichelleSingletary). Comments and questions are welcome, but due to the volume of mail, personal responses may not be possible. Please also note comments or questions may be used in a future column, with the writer’s name, unless a specific request to do otherwise is indicated.

# Do Just One Thing

**By Danny Seo**  
Is there some residual yogurt inside that plastic container? Don’t rinse it out; use it to create a highly effective face mask. Turns out yogurt made from dairy milk has an active ingredient called lactic acid, which can help improve your skin’s

clarity. Just spoon out the leftover yogurt and smear it on your face, throat and chest for about 15 minutes (a great thing to use before you shower). Then rinse it off. It’s gentle enough to use daily, and you’ll see results after just a few applications of this one-ingredient mask.



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Sports editor  
apologizes for tweeting  
'scalps' after game

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. (AP) — A sports editor for a New Mexico newspaper apologized this week after using “scalps” in a tweet to describe a high school basketball team defeating a team with Native American student-athletes.

Hobbs News-Sun Sports Editor Jason Farmer said Friday the tweet was “very inappropriate and completely insensitive.”

The world “scalp” has a racist history as white settlers regularly cut off pieces of Native Americans’ heads after killing them. The body parts were later publicly displayed as trophies and as scare tactics to other tribes to subject themselves to white supremacy. Farmer acknowledged that using the word was not within the standard of journalism or “common decency.” The apology came after Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer criticized Farmer’s social media post describing the outcome of a game between the Hobbs High School Eagles and the Shiprock Chieftains.

The Eagles defeated the Chieftains, 95-39, in the Hobbs Holiday Tournament on Thursday.

Dolphins star  
cornerback arrested  
on battery charge

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — Miami Dolphins cornerback Xavier Howard was arrested Sunday night on a domestic battery charge following an argument with his fiancée over the purchase of a purse, according to a police report. Howard, who missed much of the 2019 season with a knee injury, remained in the Broward County Jail early Monday with bond set at \$3,000, jail records showed.

The police report from Davie, Florida, in suburban Fort Lauderdale said the argument became physical when Howard grabbed his fiancée’s arm and pushed her against a mirrored glass in the hallway of their bedroom. He let her go, causing her to fall to the floor on her right arm, which landed on his crutches, the report said.

Submit  
your news

The Plain Dealer is accepting all news, varsity, junior varsity, middle school, elementary school and non-school affiliated recreational sports. To get a brief in the newspaper, please provide final score and any highlights pertaining to the event, including first and last names of participants. Reports must be received by 3:00 p.m. to make it in the following day’s edition. Items may be:

- E-mailed to sports@wabashplaindealer.com.
- Called into 260-225-4523 after 11 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Please do not leave complete results on voice mail.
- Mailed into Plain Dealer, 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Organizations or individuals e-mailing materials should call the sports department to ensure the information was received. The Plain Dealer reserves the right to edit material for length, clarity and/or style, and does not guarantee publication.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL



JACOB RUDE/PLAIN DEALER  
CELEBRATE: Wabash’s Elijah Vander Velden celebrates after hitting a layup during the first half of Saturday’s Wabash County Tournament championship game against Manchester.

Apaches repeat behind  
Vander Velden’s dominance

BY JACOB RUDE  
sports@wabashplaindealer.com

Entering the Wabash County Tournament, the Wabash boys’ basketball team had heard and felt the footsteps of county teams closing in on them following their slow start to the 2019-20 season. By weekend’s end, the Apaches had sent a message to the rest of the county.

They are still Wabash. They are still champions.

After sweeping county, conference and sectional titles last season, the 2019-20 season had been anything but a convincing start. Put to the knife over the weekend, Wabash answered the bell. The Apaches first overcame a half-time deficit to Southwood on Friday with a sterling second

half before one-upping that performance with a thorough dismantling of Manchester in the final to repeat as champions with an 80-45 win.

“I just thought our mental preparation, I don’t know what happened, there was no magic done (Friday) at halftime,” Wabash head coach Paul Wright said of the weekend. “I don’t know what they did but it’s all on them but that’s the biggest thing we’ve struggled with this year is mentally preparing and I thought we did a good job tonight. That’s what we try to tell them is ‘You have to mentally prepare for ever scenario’ and I thought the guys did a good job of the mental preparation leading up to this game.”

On Friday, the Apaches

found themselves trailing Southwood 27-19 at the half, a lead that grew to 29-19 after a basket from Connor Rich. But the ensuing nearly seven minutes saw Wabash score 17 unanswered points, completely overturning the deficit to take control of the contest and eventually earn the win.

Twenty-four hours later, the Apaches met a Manchester side that has routinely tested them like few other teams have in recent years for a chance to repeat as county champions. But unlike the last meeting between the two sides, a thrilling showdown in the sectional final that came down to the final seconds,

See APACHES / Page B2

**Bill Rogge  
Sportsmanship Awards**

JV - Jaxton Peas, Northfield Varsity - Weston Hamby, Manchester

**All-Tournament  
Team**

Clayton Tomlinson, Northfield Carson Rich, Southwood Weston Hamby, Manchester Max Carter, Manchester Trenton Daughtry, Wabash Dereck Vogel, Wabash

**Tournament  
MVP**

Elijah Vander Velden, Wabash

NFL

Reich  
hoping  
season’s  
challenges  
make Colts  
better team

BY MICHAEL MAROT  
AP Sports Writer

The Indianapolis Colts started this season with Andrew Luck’s impromptu retirement announcement. They finished it with a thud.

For the fourth time in five years they missed the playoffs, and for the second time in three years they finished with a losing record — this time after starting 5-2.

“A lot of things happened ... at the beginning of the year, things that we weren’t planning to happen and they happened,” said Jacoby Brissett, Luck’s replacement. “To me, I think we had a good year, to surprise the way we did. Like I said, if we fix our little mistakes, three or four games, we win those games.”

And make the playoffs.

This season’s continual twists and turns consistently tested the Colts’ mettle.

Indy’s franchise quarterback gave his impromptu farewell speech just minutes after the third pre-season, leaving the field to a crescendo of boos as word leaked about his decision.

Adam Vinatieri, generally regarded as the best clutch kicker in league history, faced retirement rumors as he struggled through the worst season of his career.

Indy’s two 2018 All-Pro, linebacker Darius Leonard and Quenton Nelson, both contended with concussions. Five receivers finished the season on injured reserve and that didn’t even include four-time Pro Bowler T.Y. Hilton, who missed a career-high six games with various injuries.

Brissett, meanwhile, was never the same after hurting his left knee on Nov. 3. As his completion percentage dropped and the turnovers mounted, the losses piled up.

As a result, Indy went 2-7 in its last nine games.

No, the Colts didn’t come close to meeting the pre-season hype of AFC dark horse — but, of course, most prognosticators anticipated Luck continuing his comeback.

See COLTS / Page B3

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Hoover’s hot shooting leads Norse to county repeat



JACOB RUDE/PLAIN DEALER  
THREE: Northfield’s Emma Hoover shoots a three-pointer during the first half of Saturday’s Wabash County Tournament final against Manchester.

BY JACOB RUDE  
sports@wabashplaindealer.com

The Northfield girls’ basketball coaching staff knew that Emma Hoover was due to break out of her shooting slump. She hardly could have picked a better time to finally catch fire.

In search of a second-consecutive Wabash County Tournament title against Manchester in the final on Saturday, Hoover was unstoppable in the first half, hitting five three-pointers and scoring 17 points to lead the Norse to a 48-39 win and earn tournament MVP honors.

“Huge,” Norse head coach Melissa Allen said of Hoover’s impact on the night. “She hadn’t been shooting it the best the last few games and we knew one of these games she was going to get hot and this was a heck of a game for that to happen. She’s capable of doing that every game but doing it this game helped us out a lot.”

Coming into the game having shot just 3-of-15 from three in her last three games, Hoover opened the game with a three-pointer. Her second three-pointer in the opening period banked in from straightaway and gave Northfield an 8-3 lead.

The Squires continued scrapping away, though, and eventually headed into the second quarter up 11-10 after baskets from Makenzy Meyer and Kiera Hatfield and free throws from Mackenzie Day.

Hoover was just getting warmed up though as she followed a Baker basket with another three-pointer, giving the Norse a 15-11 lead. Manchester responded with three-pointers from Hatfield and Emma Garriott to retake the lead.

Hoover’s coup de grâce came in the form of back-to-back three-pointers in a span of only seconds. After knocking down a wing three-pointer to put Northfield ahead 18-17, the Squires would

**Bill Rogge  
Sportsmanship Award**

JV - Alaina Winer, Southwood Varsity - Bailey Mooney, Manchester

**All-Tournament Team**

Ashley Smith, Southwood Alivia Short, Wabash Kiera Hatfield, Manchester Mackenzie Day, Manchester Addi Baker, Northfield Kearston Stout, Northfield

**Tournament MVP**

Emma Hoover, Northfield

immediately turn the ball over thanks to the Norse’s full-court pressure. Hoover collected the loose ball and hoisted another three-pointer that found the bottom of the net yet again.

The two three-pointers kickstarted a 12-0 run to close the half and gave the Norse a

See NORSE / Page B2







COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Joe, Jones lead Arkansas to road win at Indiana, 71-64

BY PHILLIP B. WILSON  
Associated Press

BLOOMINGTON, — Undersized but not outgunned, Arkansas was determined to take their best shots at Indiana on Sunday night. That meant a 3-point barrage, for better or for worse. It's why the Razorbacks fell behind by double digits when those shots weren't falling, and also explains how Arkansas rallied to a 71-64 road win with a late surge from long range. "We had to make 3s to survive," said Arkansas first-year coach Eric Musselman, whose team trailed 50-39 with 16:04 remaining. The Razorbacks field a starting lineup of four

guards and a tallest player at 6-foot-6, so perimeter play is vital. Sophomore guard Isaiah Joe started the comeback with one of his six 3-pointers. Junior guard Mason Jones hit four. "Me and Mason, we feed off of each other," Joe said. "For a quick second, I felt like everything I threw up was going to go in. I'm a shooter, so I'm going to keep shooting the ball no matter what." Arkansas made 12-of-31 from beyond the arc, but most importantly 8-of-17 in the second half. "We need (Joe) to make threes," Musselman said, "or we're going to struggle." Joe scored 24 points, his only two-point basket tying

the game at 61. Jones, who scored 21, sank 3-pointers on back-to-back possessions to give the visitors a 67-62 lead with 2:01 remaining as part of a 17-1 run down the stretch. "Every game, we hear the same thing: 'How is Arkansas going to match up with people?'" Musselman said. "Well, they also have to match up with us because we play four guards and we space the floor and we're hard to match up with when we're knocking down 3s." Arkansas (11-1) limited Indiana (11-2) to just three points in the final 8:08. "Our offense let us down," Indiana coach Archie Miller said. So, too, did the perimeter

defense. "You're playing against some really good shooters, some guys who can really stretch the floor and put you on islands," Miller said. "Inevitably they made some timely ones to not only hang in, they also made some big ones to go up and give them some confidence." The Hoosiers hurt themselves by missing half of their 18 free throws and were just 2 of 8 on 3-pointers. It also didn't help that one of their best perimeter players, junior guard Aljami Durham, was ejected five minutes in for a throwing a retaliation elbow. Indiana freshman center Trayce Jackson-Davis dominated inside in scor-

ing 16 of his 20 points in the first half. The Hoosiers led 38-33 at intermission. Jackson-Davis threw down his fourth dunk early in the second half. But then everything changed. "I just need to be more aggressive, post up harder," Jackson-Davis said. Arkansas stressed limiting his touches in the second half, and it worked. "By eliminating Trayce Jackson-Davis' inside shot attempts and make them beat us from the perimeter, I thought it changed the game for us," Musselman said. The matchup was a rematch of a March NIT second-round game at the same venue, which Indiana won 63-60. Arkansas edged In-

diana 73-72 at home in November of 2018. **BIG PICTURE** **Arkansas:** While the overall record is impressive, the Razorbacks have yet to face a ranked opponent, so this road win over a quality foe mattered more. Arkansas has no choice but to rely on that 3-point shooting (12-for-31). That's why the Razorbacks trailed by so much but were able to rally for the win. **Indiana:** The young Hoosiers are going to experience growing pains like this when they don't defend the perimeter effectively. Previous breakdowns seemed isolated, but there was no mistaking how this game turned around so quickly.

NFL

Pats to play in wild-card game, 49ers get NFC's No. 1 seed

BY DENNIS WASZAK JR.  
AP Pro Football Writer

NEW YORK — Tom Brady and the New England Patriots will be playing in the postseason a week earlier than usual this year. The defending Super Bowl champs open the playoffs during wild-card weekend for the first time since 2009 after they lost 27-24 to Miami on Sunday and Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs beat the Los Angeles Chargers 31-21 to earn a first-round bye. "We didn't play the way we're capable of playing and it ended up costing us," Brady said. "Just too many bad mistakes." The Patriots (12-4) are the No. 3 overall seed in the AFC and will have to fix things in a hurry as they host Tennessee (9-7) next Saturday night. "We've got a game next week, we've got to get ready to go," Patriots safety Devin McCourty said. "Nobody should feel sorry for us, we shouldn't feel sorry for ourselves. Our goal is to play in the playoffs. We got a shot next week at all of that." San Francisco earned the No. 1 seed and home-field advantage in the NFC playoffs with a 26-21 victory at Seattle. Jimmy Garoppolo and the NFC West champion 49ers (13-3) held on and sent Russell Wilson and the Seahawks (11-5) on the road

to open the playoffs in the wild-card round next Sunday at Philadelphia. "It's a good step in the right direction," Garoppolo said. "We've got a long way to go, though." The Titans clinched their spot by beating Houston 35-14, eliminating both Pittsburgh and Oakland in the process. All three teams had a chance at the playoffs, but Tennessee had the easiest path by needing to win — and got it against a Texans squad that rested several starters, including quarterback Deshaun Watson. "I think it's great when you can determine whether you get to continue to play football," Titans coach Mike Vrabel said. "There was some great effort, but we're going to have to improve and play better. Everything gets harder from here on out." The last time New England played on wild-card weekend, it lost at home to the Ravens. The Patriots have never made it to the Super Bowl with Brady and coach Bill Belichick while playing in the opening round. "We've got to move forward and get ready to go or the end of our season will be next week if we don't turn the page and play good football, way better than today," McCourty said. "Nobody feels sorry for the Patriots not getting a first-round bye in the playoffs."

Meanwhile, the Chiefs (12-4) are the No. 2 seed and will be able to watch the opening round, along with the top-seeded Baltimore Ravens (14-2). "We'll step back, the guys will come in tomorrow, we'll have a team meeting, I'll give them a schedule for what's going on the next week here during the bye week," Chiefs coach Andy Reid said. "The main thing is we get work done, but we rest up and get ready for whoever we might play." Kansas City's victory also locked Houston into the No. 4 seed, and the Texans (10-6) will host the Buffalo Bills (10-6) next Saturday. Despite resting several starters, including quarterback Lamar Jackson, running back Mark Ingram, guard Marshal Yanda and safety Earl Thomas, Baltimore cruised past Pittsburgh 28-10 to ride into the playoffs on a 12-game winning streak. "It's the best team in football in the regular season this year, but that doesn't count for anything in the next season," coach John Harbaugh said. "In the next season, we have to obviously go to work this week and become a better football team." Green Bay earned a first-round bye in the NFC playoffs with a 23-20 victory at Detroit, the Packers' fifth

straight win. "We're hot," quarterback Aaron Rodgers said. "But you've got to start all over in the playoffs and it's all great football teams now, so the margin of error is even smaller." Rodgers and the Packers (13-3) lost out on home-field advantage with San Francisco's win, but have the No. 2 seed in the conference. "The NFC is wide open," Rodgers said. New Orleans routed Carolina 42-10 to finish 13-3 in the regular season, but Drew Brees and Co. then had to wait for the result of the 49ers-Seahawks game to see what their playoff path would be. The NFC South champions will be the No. 3 seed and will host Minnesota (10-6) in the wild-card round next Sunday. Injury-ravaged Philadelphia (9-7) won the NFC East with a 34-17 win over the New York Giants, eliminating Dallas with the victory. The Eagles, with their second division title in three years, will host the Seahawks. "This team, when it's crunch time this time of year, we get it done," Eagles defensive tackle Tim Jernigan said after his team finished the schedule with a four-game winning streak.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Book plans to return to quarterback Irish in 2020 season

BY JOHN FINERAN  
Associated Press

SOUTH BEND — One Notre Dame offensive standout is planning to return to school. It remains to be seen if another will join him. Quarterback Ian Book posted on his Instagram and Twitter accounts that he plans to be back for the 2020 season. Book posted a signed picture taken from Notre Dame's win over Boston College with captions, "See you in 2020" and "Go Irish." It also listed his location as Dublin, Ireland, the site of Notre Dame's season-opening game against Navy on Aug. 29 and included a hash tag #BeatNavy. Book, who passed for 247 yards and a touchdown in a Camping World Bowl win over Iowa State on Saturday, has a redshirt season remaining after sitting out his 2016 freshman year. So does running back Tony Jones Jr., who rushed for 135 yards against Iowa State on 11 carries, including an 84-yard touchdown run in the third quarter.

Team spokeswoman Clare Kramer said Monday that Jones has not made a decision. "Tony Jones Jr. does have one year of eligibility remaining," Kramer said. Jones finished the season as Notre Dame's leading rusher with 857 yards on 144 carries (6.0 average) and six touchdowns in 12 games, missing one game with a sore hip. He went over 100 yards five times, with a career-best 176 on 25 carries against Southern California. If Jones returns, the Irish running back group could include Jafar Armstrong, C'Bo Flemister, Jahmir Smith, Avery Davis and Kyren Williams and five-star incoming freshman Chris Tyree. Book has played in 35 games for Notre Dame and is 20-3 since taking over as the starting quarterback in 2018. This season, he completed 240 of 399 passes (60%) for 3,034 yards and 34 touchdowns with six interceptions. He rushed 112 times for 546 yards (second to Jones) and four touchdowns.

COLTS

Continued from B1

But they also didn't completely collapse without their franchise quarterback, as some feared. Instead, coach Frank Reich found out even more about his roster and believes the young Colts (7-9) still have a bright future. "We want the kind of guys who are going to play in these kinds of situations," Reich said. "Not that we want to be in this situation, but that is who these guys are. You want guys who love to play football. I mean you want guys who love to play ball and love to play together, and I think we have that."

QB QUESTIONS

General manager Chris Ballard will continually face two questions between now and next September. Will Luck return? And will he use a high draft pick on a quarterback? Brissett struggled after returning from a sprained medial collateral ligament in his left knee. Last week, offensive coordinator Nick Sirianni acknowledged the injury may have impacted Brissett's accuracy. But with Brissett also about to enter the second season of his current deal and veteran backup Brian Hoyer ineffective in his only start of the season, the Colts would be wise to consider drafting a quarterback. As for Luck, he's the only one who really knows if he'll ever return to football. **END OF THE ROAD?** Vinatieri finished the season on injured reserve after doctors recommended surgery on his problematic

plant leg. The injury forced him to miss the preseason and part of training camp and it never really got any better, though Vinatieri refused to blame the errant kicks on a bum knee. While he wasn't the only special teams who struggled, the 47-year-old Vinatieri isn't under contract for 2020 and he missed six extra points and eight field goals this season. The NFL's career scoring leader already has said he hopes to return for his 25th season in the league. If he doesn't, his final kick would be the 46-yarder Tennessee blocked and returned for the go-ahead touchdown in a critical loss Dec. 1.

RUNNING RIGHT

Marlon Mack finally had the breakthrough season the Colts expected. He stayed relatively healthy, topped the 1,000-yard mark for the first time, and helped the franchise rush for 2,000 yards for the first time as a team since 1994. Mack also has demonstrated his ability to catch passes, and when he went down Jonathan Williams managed two 100-yard games. With four starters on the offensive line still younger than 28, Mack could be running behind one of the league's best offensive lines for the foreseeable future.

HOW TO GET IT RIGHT

The Colts don't need a massive overhaul. A promising young defense improved steadily throughout the season and should only get better. Brissett demonstrated he can be an NFL starter when healthy and surrounded by good receivers, and the Colts proved they can run the ball.

Giants have fired coach Shurmur, GM Dave Gettleman stays

BY TOM CANAVAN  
AP Sports Writer

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Co-owner Steve Tisch is looking to take a greater role in the daily operations of the New York Giants as the organization begins a third coaching search in four years and faces criticism for retaining the general manager who hired the last coach. The Giants once again put themselves in the post-season spotlight for the off-the-field reasons when they fired coach Pat Shurmur on Monday and elected to keep general manager Dave Gettleman despite the two combining for nine wins over the past two seasons. Co-owner John Mara said it was a gut instinct to fire Shurmur after the Giants (4-12) lost their regular-season finale to the Philadelphia Eagles on Sunday. Mara added the decision to keep the 68-year-old Gettleman was based on giving him the chance to finish a major overall of the roster, the scouting system and increased use of analytics while spending his first year on the job fighting cancer. Gettleman has been criticized for some questionable trades (Odell Beckham Jr. and Leonard Williams) and his hit-and-miss free agent signings, led by tackle Nate Solder, who has been inconsistent.

"He does know his batting average has to increase going forward," Mara said in putting Gettleman on the spot for next season. Mara, Tisch and Gettleman met with Shurmur on Monday morning and informed him he was being let go with three years left on his contract. Mara and Tisch said they have been talking about the coaching situation for weeks and were in agreement of the need to change. Mara felt there were games the team could have won this season and didn't. Mara added there is no denying the team made the wrong choices in hiring Ben McAdoo in 2016 and Shurmur in 2018. "I think there are some very attractive candidates out there who will have interest in this job and I think we will get it right this time," Mara said of the next coach, adding he wants a leader. Tisch, who has been somewhat of the silent co-owner working on the West Coast, plans to be more active after too many frustrating seasons. "I am involved and I would like to be more involved. I will become more involved moving forward in 2020," said Tisch, adding the two men have a good working relationship and always reach an agreement after sharing their different opinions. Both felt it was in the best interest to fire Shurmur and

keep Gettleman. They also shared the responsibility for the team having 12 wins over the last three seasons. The four-time Super Bowl champions have missed the playoffs seven times in eight years. Mara and Tisch believe Gettleman has assembled a good nucleus of young players led by halfback Saquon Barkley and quarterback Daniel Jones, and updated several layers of the organization. "We believe it would be a mistake the pull the plug on that after two years, particularly when you consider Dave spent the a major part of the first year fighting for his life," Mara said. Shurmur had refused to speculate about his future after the game. He felt the franchise, which dates to 1925, was in better shape than when he took over in January 2018. He noted the organization now has salary cap room for free agency and draft picks, including the No. 4 overall selection in 2020. "The Giants' wins this past season were not impressive. They beat Washington (3-13) twice, Miami (5-11) and Tampa Bay (7-9). "It's been a very frustrating four years, certainly the record indicates that, those numbers don't lie," Tisch said. "Going forward, John and I want to make sure that those numbers change in the



Talk of previous relationship throws water on current flame

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm a widower who was very happily married. I have decided to re-enter the dating game. I met a very nice widow, and we connected. As I was lonely, it made a big change for the better in my life. The lady I matched up with is a wonderful, caring person, and we enjoy being together doing what dating folks do. We're thankful to have found each other.

She had met a man she enjoyed being with some years ago, but it was of short duration because he died. She told me they had a nice, but platonic relationship. My problem is how often she speaks about him. Something reminds her of him, and she wants to talk about it. I can understand that he might come up once in a while, but last month she mentioned him a dozen times. I don't think she does it to make me jealous, but I find it annoying.

I tried a few times subtly suggesting it would be better if she didn't mention him. I'm not sure she understands it could undermine our relationship. What to do? – Worried Widower In New England

**DEAR WIDOWER:** Address this with your lady friend as frankly as you have to me. If she values the relationship she has with you, she will stop "raising the dead" in conversation.

**DEAR ABBY:** My sister did something that really bothered me. My niece (her daughter) took us to a restaurant she had heard was really good. In this restaurant, you order and pay for your meal first. My niece paid for all the meals, and we sat down at our table to await our food.

My niece had to leave the table momentarily before our order was ready. While she was gone, my sister said I should reimburse her daughter because she couldn't afford to pay for all the meals.

I have never mooched off anyone in my life. The \$10 my niece spent is the only time I can remember anyone buying me dinner in my adult life other than on my birthday. My niece has a job that I know for a fact pays at least three times as much as mine does. She has several pets, and I'm sure she spends a lot more a month on pet food than the cost of my meal. I don't think my sister should have made an issue of it. What do you think? – Irritated In North Carolina

**DEAR IRRITATED:** I agree with you. You were an invited guest and, as well-meaning as your sister may have been, she should have stayed out of it. I hope you will overlook her poor manners.

**DEAR ABBY:** This past weekend I was walking at the mall and encountered a gentleman in a wheelchair. I was walking down a long, graduated slope as he was coming up. I offered to assist him, and he politely declined.

My question is, what is the proper thing to do when offering to assist? Is it rude, and is someone offended when offered a helping hand? – Just trying to help

**DEAR JUST TRYING:** I don't think it is ever offensive to OFFER a helping hand. What can be counter-productive is when a good Samaritan does something without first ASKING – such as grabbing the arm of a sightless person and attempting to help the individual across a street – which can be not only frightening but possibly unnecessary.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Dear Abby



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

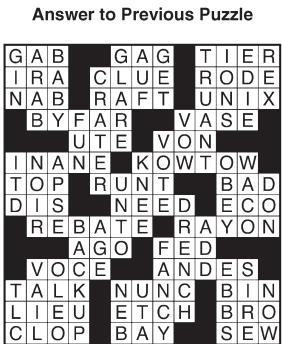
- 1 Be bold enough
- 5 Membership dues
- 8 Wan
- 12 Out loud
- 13 Produce an egg
- 14 More than bad
- 15 Sweater letter
- 16 Taconite
- 17 Place for skating
- 18 Not as complicated
- 20 Pitches
- 22 Hunter's org.
- 23 Ja, to Jacques
- 24 Unveils
- 27 Newspaper name
- 30 Percent ending
- 31 Robert of "Airplane!"
- 32 Bumbler
- 34 Iced drink
- 35 Less than ten
- 36 Had brunch
- 37 Some newlyweds

39 Sir's opposite

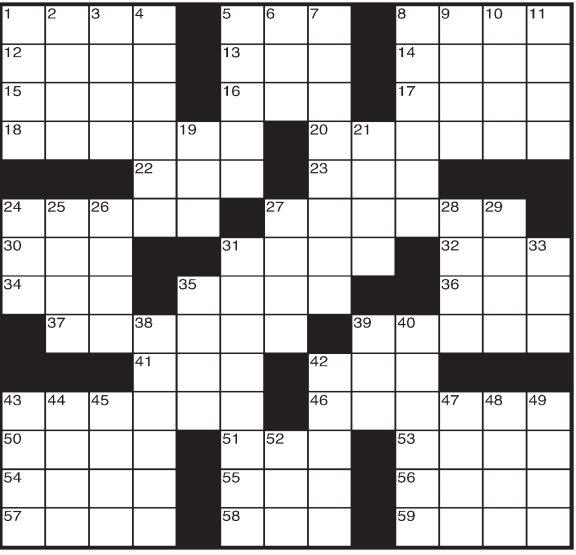
- 41 Edible seed
- 42 Not worth a —
- 43 "1984" author
- 46 Put in order
- 50 Gridiron advance
- 51 Khan of note
- 53 Unfounded, as rumors
- 54 Tiny stream
- 55 Orange veggie
- 56 Decorated tinware
- 57 Vortex
- 58 Jungfrau
- 59 — dunk

DOWN

- 1 Catnap
- 2 Type of rug
- 3 Charlie Brown's word
- 4 Seinfeld pal
- 5 Flower goddess
- 6 Corn unit



- 7 See
- (agree)
- 8 Shah's domain
- 9 Hertz rival
- 10 Queue
- 11 Broad-antlered deer
- 19 Pause fillers
- 21 What we have
- 24 Harness part
- 25 Shake — (hurry)
- 26 Situated at the back
- 27 — Christian Andersen
- 28 Fill
- 29 Statistics
- 31 Nepal's mountains
- 33 Not masc.
- 35 Carol
- 38 Not furtively
- 39 Miss Piggy's word
- 40 Checks for fraud
- 42 Philatelist's item
- 43 Fiend
- 44 Maraud
- 45 Natural
- 47 Graven image
- 48 Jazzy Fitzgerald
- 49 Form an opinion
- 52 Four qts.



SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| 4 | 8 |   |   | 6 | 3 |   | 5 |   |  |
|   |   |   |   | 2 | 7 | 1 |   | 8 |  |
|   | 7 |   | 5 | 9 | 8 |   |   | 4 |  |
| 5 |   |   |   |   | 1 | 4 |   |   |  |
|   |   | 4 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 5 |   |   |  |
|   |   | 7 | 2 |   |   |   |   | 3 |  |
| 2 |   |   | 7 | 5 | 9 |   | 1 |   |  |
| 1 |   | 9 | 8 | 3 |   |   |   |   |  |
|   | 5 |   | 6 | 1 |   |   | 8 | 9 |  |

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How to play:

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 5 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 7 |
| 6 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 4 |
| 4 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 2 |
| 8 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 6 |
| 9 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 5 |
| 7 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 9 |
| 1 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 9 | 5 | 8 |
| 5 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 2 | 7 | 3 |
| 3 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 1 |

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

|        |
|--------|
| MOSPT  |
| NRIBE  |
| ROSMYT |
| CANGLE |

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THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



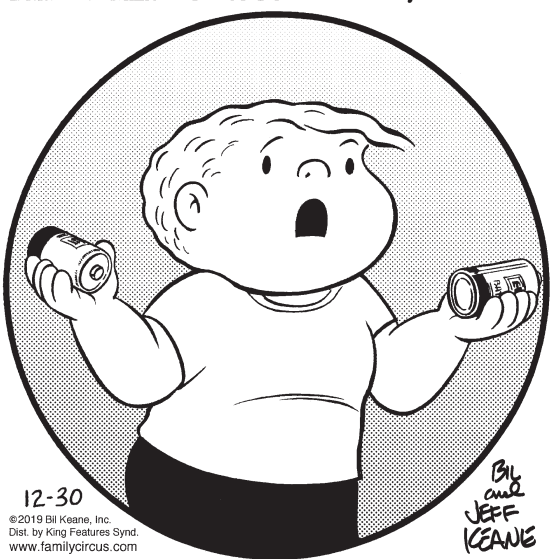
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: TUNER TINGE GLOBAL DISOWN Answer: When asked when he'd be done writing his new short story, the author said — IT WON'T BE LONG

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"How do I know which battery is empty? They both weigh the same."

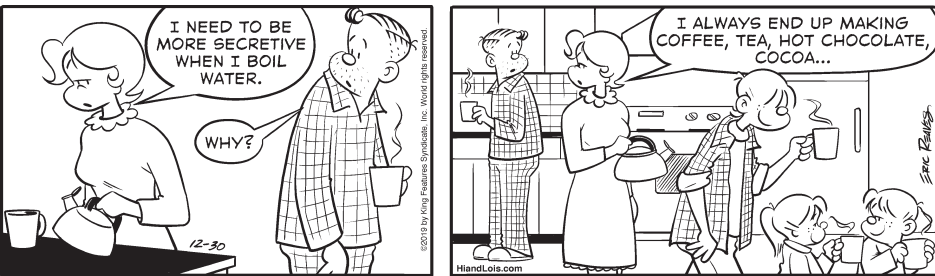
BEETLE BAILEY



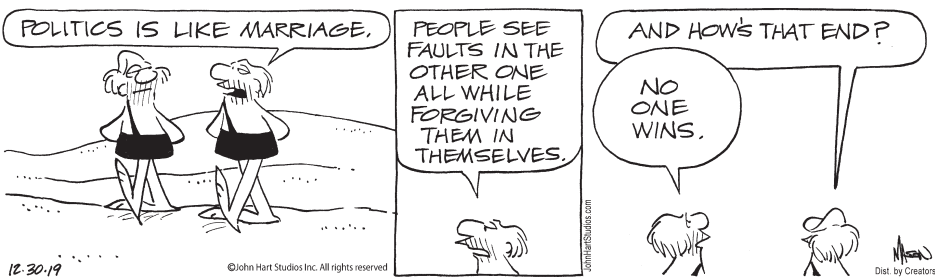
BLONDIE



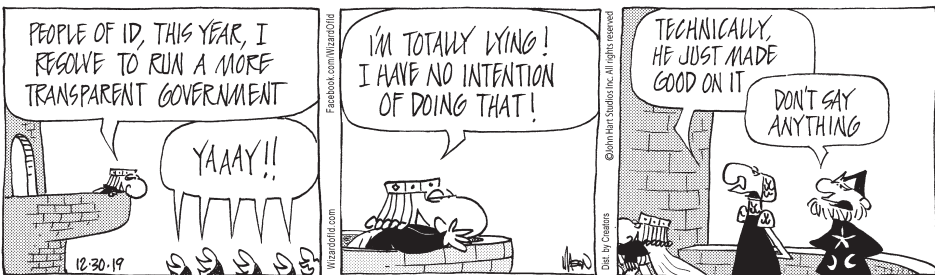
HI & LOIS



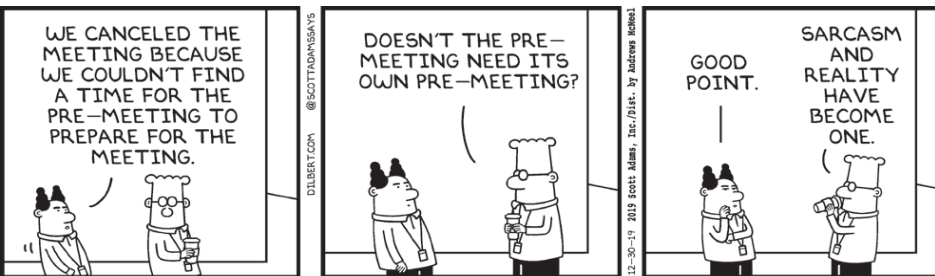
BC



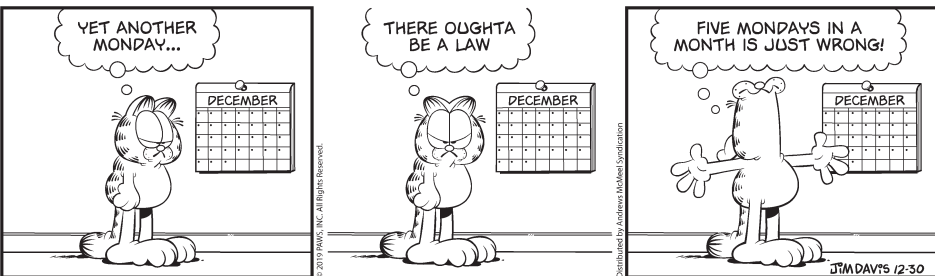
WIZARD OF ID



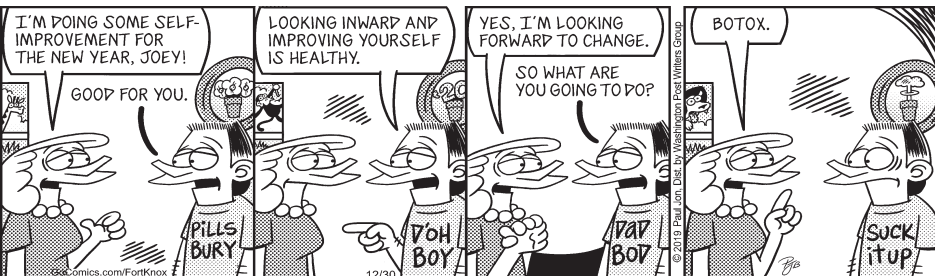
DILBERT



GARFIELD



FORT KNOX



PICKLES



We cannot escape the righteous judgment of God

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

**Q:** Why do people easily believe in Heaven but not Hell? Does it really change anything? – H.H.

**A:** Most people accept that Heaven is real, according to a Fox News poll. Many religious and non-religious believe they will go there because God is a God of love.

Many of these same people, however, reject that Hell is real. Yet they reserve Hell as a very real place for people who have perpetrated some of the most hideous crimes in history and have absolutely no remorse in wanting some of the most infamous criminals to "go to Hell." What does it reveal about people's hearts when they want someone condemned to Hell? They are obviously judging that person's actions against their

own merit. They believe they're good enough to pass judgment on another person, but they accuse God who is holy of condemning people to this foreboding place because they reject His Word.

"Please... write on anything but Hell!" This comes from bloggers in cyberspace who claim to be Christians. Responding to those who are sounding the warning about Hell, they write, "This makes Christians look like they serve a God filled with anger and wrath."

No matter how hard we try, we cannot escape the righ-

teous judgment of God. But God, in His mercy and grace, wants to impart His righteousness through salvation to all people. Yet there are those who refuse such a gift and want to make light of Hell, the place that intrigues and inflames such passion.

Herein lies the problem – we see ourselves as good and refuse to see that we, too, harbor wickedness within. The Bible says that "the heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?" (Jeremiah 17:9). Don't let Satan deceive you with his lies. Turn to God and live for Him.

CELEBRITY CIPHER by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"CRH JH DR YVJP J'BR ICVARP HTR MGJRLP, TVBR CJBPR VLP CKBRP VLP CVDKGRP TRGR, VLP WVPR KM JH V TVIIA ARVG." — RPZVG ZXRYH

Previous Solution: "My work is more fun than fun but, best of all, it's still very scary. You are always walking some kind of high wire." — Tom Hanks

TODAY'S CLUE: W sje nbe M



# Bride-to-be attempts to keep costs and hurt feelings down

**DEAR ABBY:** I have an awkward wedding conundrum I hope you can help me with. I am getting married in April and want to invite two co-workers with whom I am very close. One of them is married; the other, “Sara,” is in the process of divorcing her husband. Sara was unhappy for years with her almost ex-husband, and we witnessed the deterioration of their marriage over several years.

About a year ago, while still married, Sara began an affair. She’s still “seeing” this man – sneaking out, meeting him on his lunch break, going to motels – while she goes through the divorce process. She considers them to have been a couple for the past year.

I’m keeping a very tight grip on my guest list to control the costs. I don’t want to pass judgment on Sara, but I don’t think her situation at present qualifies as a true, committed relationship, which is the parameter I set when deciding who gets to bring a plus-one. I also don’t want my wedding to be the event where she “debuts” her new man.

I know she will feel slighted because in her mind he’s her boyfriend, and they are a couple. I have met him only once, but because they have been so secretive, he’s a complete stranger to me. Sara may resent that I invited our other co-worker’s husband and not her “boyfriend.” Is there a way I can handle this tactfully? – Bewildered Bride

**DEAR BEWILDERED:** If you invite one close co-worker’s significant other and exclude the other, there are guaranteed to be hurt feelings. If you explain that you don’t feel she is in a committed relationship (after a year!), you will get yourself deeper into hot water because she will be insulted. Believe me, if you do what you are considering, it’s going to cost you far more than the price of two dinners.

**DEAR ABBY:** I’m a 67-year-old woman. I’ve been single all my life but now wish I could find a companion to share my later years with. My problem is, I’m not interested in a sexual relationship. I have never been good at the physical part of intimacy. As a result, I’ve had limited experience and not much luck with men. When I was younger, I had a reasonably healthy sexual appetite, but couldn’t seem to do “the act” right, although I enjoyed the prelude.

My idea of a relationship now would be with a kind, supportive man who likes to dance and enjoy life, but who’s OK with no sex. Is this a reasonable expectation at my age, or should I just give it all up? I don’t even know how I’d go about finding such a partner without fearing I’d have to prove myself and experience more loss.

Incidentally, I had counseling years ago about other issues, and the strong possibility arose about childhood sexual abuse, but it was vague and not resolved. – Wanting This But Not That

**DEAR WANTING:** I can’t guarantee that you will find a partner, but there is a website for asexual people that offers a lot of information as well as a way to connect with the rest of the “ace” (short for “asexual”) community. Its members call it AVEN, which stands for Asexual Visibility and Education Network. It can be found at asexuality.org. You and many others may find it helpful, and I wish you luck in your quest to find a loving relationship.

**DEAR READERS:** Well, contentious 2019 is at an end! Please accept my heartfelt good wishes for a happy, healthy and successful 2020. And if you plan to be out partying tonight to ring in the New Year, please be sure you have appropriate transportation arrangements and be safe! – Love, Abby

Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com).

Dear Abby



## CROSSWORD

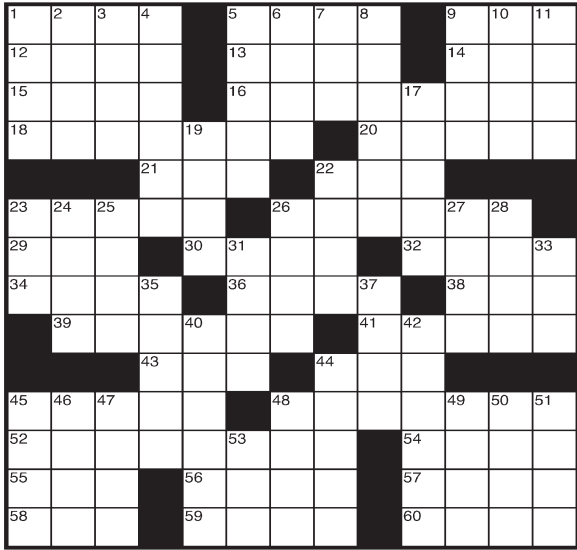
### ACROSS

- 1 Extremist sect
- 5 Roman historian
- 9 Mr. Damone
- 12 Pittsburgh river
- 13 Liniment target
- 14 Gladiator’s hello
- 15 Magnificence
- 16 Went flat
- 18 Bought some stuff
- 20 Oater extras
- 21 Guided
- 22 “The,” to Wolfgang
- 23 Greek epic poet
- 26 Shoe sizes
- 29 Language suffix
- 30 “Once — a Time”
- 32 Last word
- 34 Fr. miss
- 36 Abominable Snowman
- 38 Baja gold
- 39 Furry swimmers
- 41 Microsurgery tool
- 43 Step on it
- 44 Go-aheads
- 45 Parking attendant
- 48 Fair treatment
- 52 Make too warm
- 54 Sooner city
- 55 Charged particle
- 56 Bahrain VIP
- 57 Hayworth of old movies
- 58 Molecular bio. topic
- 59 Run the show
- 60 Flower holder

### DOWN

- 1 Ticket-givers
- 2 Klutz’s cry (hyph.)
- 3 Airport vehicle
- 4 Fall
- 5 Put cargo on board
- 6 Frosted a cake
- 7 Channels 2-13
- 8 Barked
- 9 Dye vessels
- 10 Currier’s partner
- 11 Grant
- 17 Major artery
- 19 Pizarro’s conquest
- 22 Force
- 23 Skirt bottom
- 24 King Harald’s capital
- 25 Liquefy
- 26 Misfortunes
- 27 Med. plans
- 28 Dried up
- 31 Ceremonial fire
- 33 Postal creed word
- 35 Outer space
- 37 Sorts
- 40 One or the other
- 42 Fall blooms
- 44 Outlandish
- 45 Emptiness
- 46 Cosmetics brand
- 47 Actress — Olin
- 48 Slammer
- 49 J in JFK
- 50 Commend
- 51 Wax-coated cheese
- 53 Outback bird

Answer to Previous Puzzle



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## SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 4 |   |   |
| 4 |   | 1 | 6 |   |   | 5 | 9 |   |
| 2 |   |   | 3 | 4 | 6 |   |   |   |
| 3 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | 2 | 4 |   | 1 |   | 3 | 8 |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | 5 |
|   |   | 2 | 8 | 5 |   |   |   | 3 |
|   | 7 | 9 |   |   | 6 | 2 |   | 1 |
|   |   | 3 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 9 |

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### How to play:

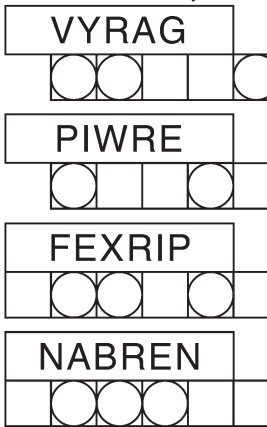
Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

### PREVIOUS SOLUTION

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 5 | 7 |
| 6 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 8 |
| 3 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 4 |
| 5 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 2 |
| 8 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 1 |
| 9 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 3 |
| 2 | 4 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 9 | 3 | 1 | 6 |
| 1 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 5 |
| 7 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 9 |

## JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



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### THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

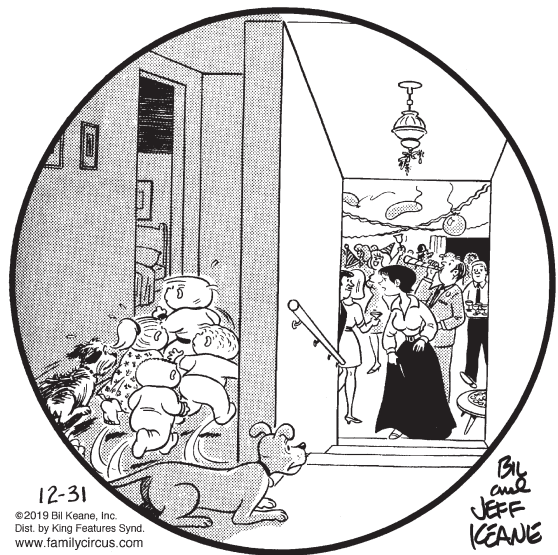


(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: STOMP BRINE STORMY GLANCE  
Answer: The mimes had worked together for years and enjoyed being — SILENT PARTNERS

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

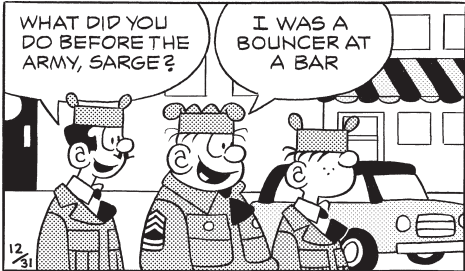
By Bil Keane



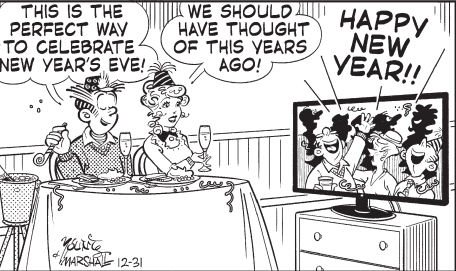
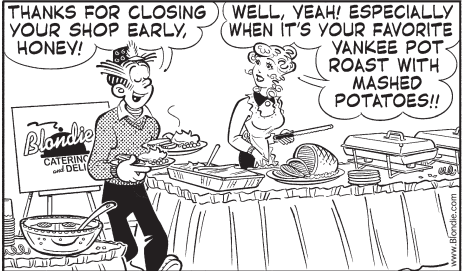
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“I’ll be back as soon as I check on the children.”

## BEEBLE BAILEY



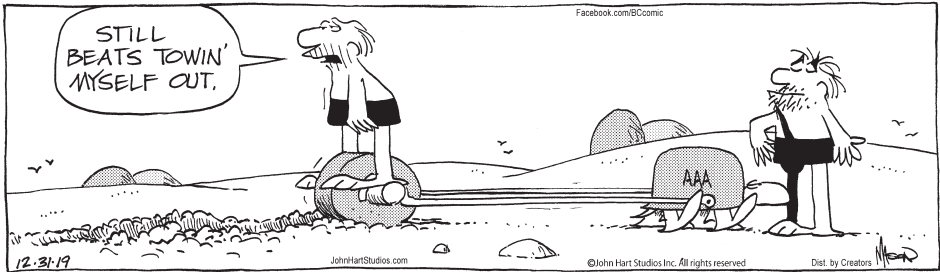
## BLONDIE



## HI & LOIS



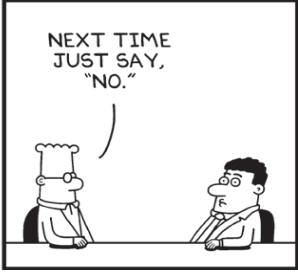
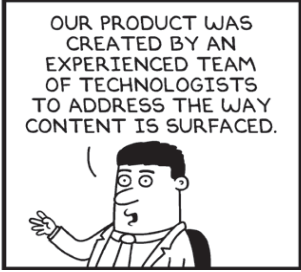
## BC



## WIZARD OF ID



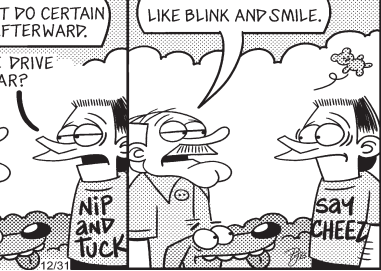
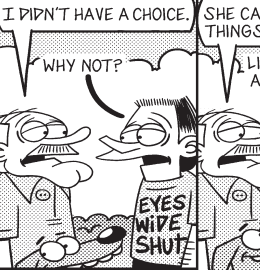
## DILBERT



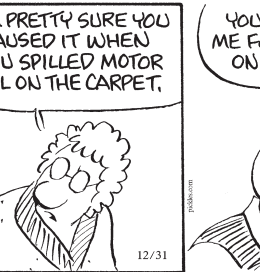
## GARFIELD



## FORT KNOX



## PICKLES



# Man was not made for himself, but for God

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

**Q:** The Christmas season for me is always a happy time. It seems people are more likely to be in good spirits. But when the last day of the year comes, I crumble. Depression sets in like a dark cloud as I reflect on disappointments. What hope can a new year bring to ease the restlessness? – H.D.

**A:** A new year is only a mark of time, a turning of the page. Mankind was not established on earth just to be preoccupied with self, our own problems and pleasures. Mankind was not put here to make this a better world. If this is all there is to life, then it truly is “meaningless” (Ecclesiastes 1:14, NIV). Man was not made for himself, but for God. The Great Designer planned that

we would know Him forever.

Why are people so restless? Why are people constantly searching for lasting peace and contentment yet never fully satisfied? Many people express this particularly when a new year approaches. Countless people echo this lament. The Bible says this happens for a very good reason: We are incomplete without God. If we leave Him out of our lives, we have an empty place in our souls, a yearning deep inside us that only God can satisfy. No matter how hard

we try, if we ignore God, our search for lasting peace and happiness will be futile.

Man is not just a physical being; he is a spiritual being, created with a soul or spirit that gives the ability to know God. The Bible says that God implanted something of Himself inside of us: “God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them” (Genesis 1:27). God has given us a unique spiritual nature and we can know its blessings when we surrender completely to Him.

## CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

“ILJRFNF M AR AB VEZ’MF BPJMF O EY  
OEAXW, OE AR. KJSF VEZM KABRJSFB  
XFTR VFJM JXO YEMFNFM.” — XFAU  
WJAKJX

Previous Solution: “Let it be said I’ve played the friend. Have lived and loved and labored here, And made of it a happy year.” — Edgar Guest

TODAY’S CLUE: H sjenbe 7





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**General Help**  
be obtained at Fire HQ, 301 S. Branson St. 3rd floor, Marion Monday through Friday 8 AM - 4 PM. Applications must be returned by 1/16/20 4:00PM. (765) 668-4474  
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The following deadlines for placing a Classified Liner is as follows:  
To publish on Thur. Dec. 26th, 2019 the deadline is 10am on Mon. Dec. 23rd, 2019.  
To publish on Tue. Dec. 24th, 2019 the deadline is 11am Fri. Dec. 20th, 2019.  
To publish on Thursday Jan. 2nd, 2019 the deadline is 11am on Mon. Dec. 30th, 2019.

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